

MORE COLOR
THAN EVER!

SPECIAL ISSUE!

\$2.75 / \$3.25 Canada

PWI'S SUMMER SPECTACULAR

14420



Sept. 1987

PRO

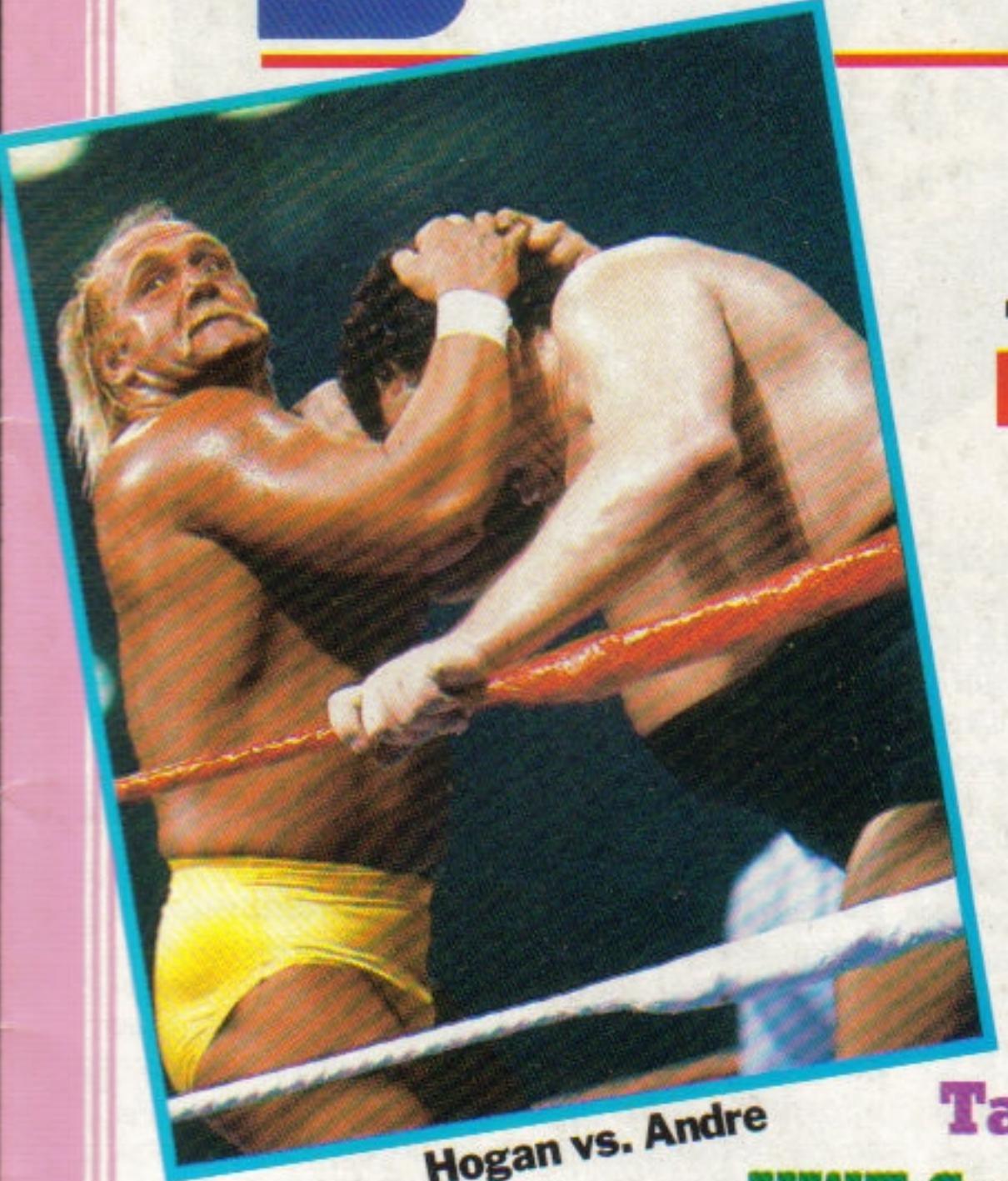
Wrestling ILLUSTRATED

T.V.
SPORTS

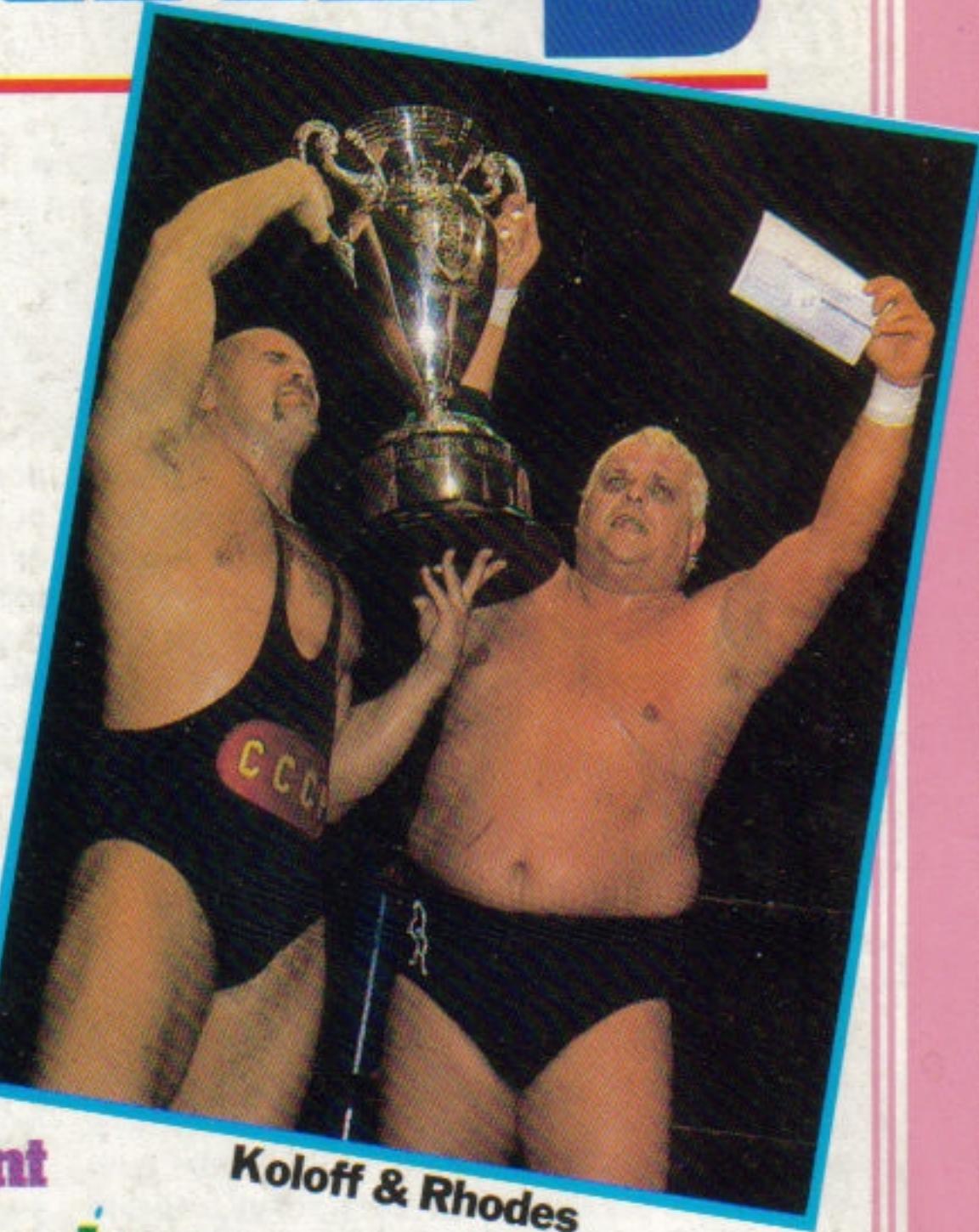
SUPERCARDS

'87

FULL-COLOR
COVERAGE
OF 1987's
GREATEST
SHOWS



Hogan vs. Andre



Koloff & Rhodes

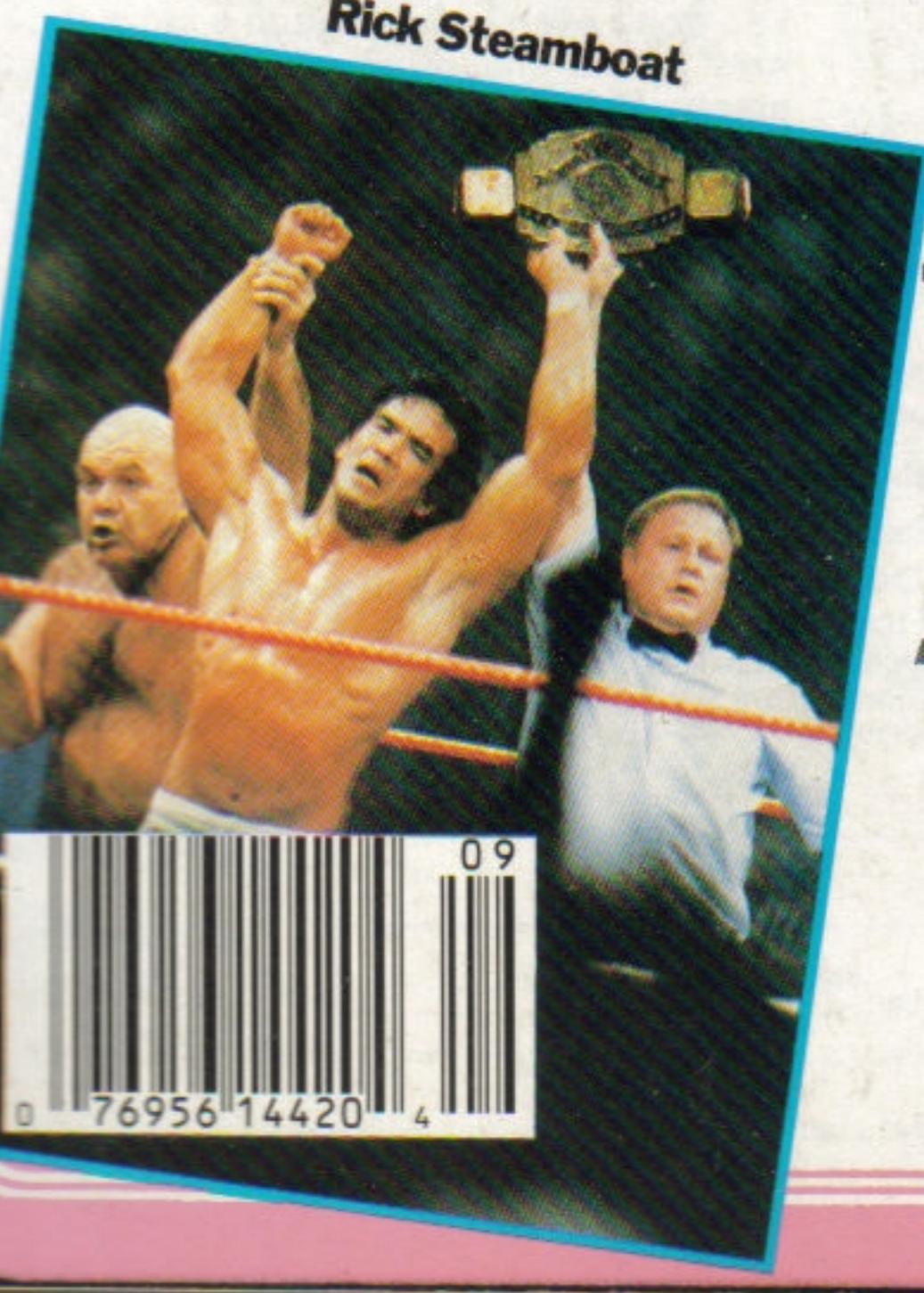
WrestleMania III

Jim Crockett
Sr. Memorial Cup
Tag Team Tournament

UWF Superblast At The Superdome

David Von Erich
Memorial Parade
of Champions

Midnight Express vs. Superpowers



Rick Steamboat

PRESS CONFERENCE: JERRY LAWLER

Mike Von Erich
Commits Suicide:
"NOW HE IS AT PEACE
WITH THE LORD"

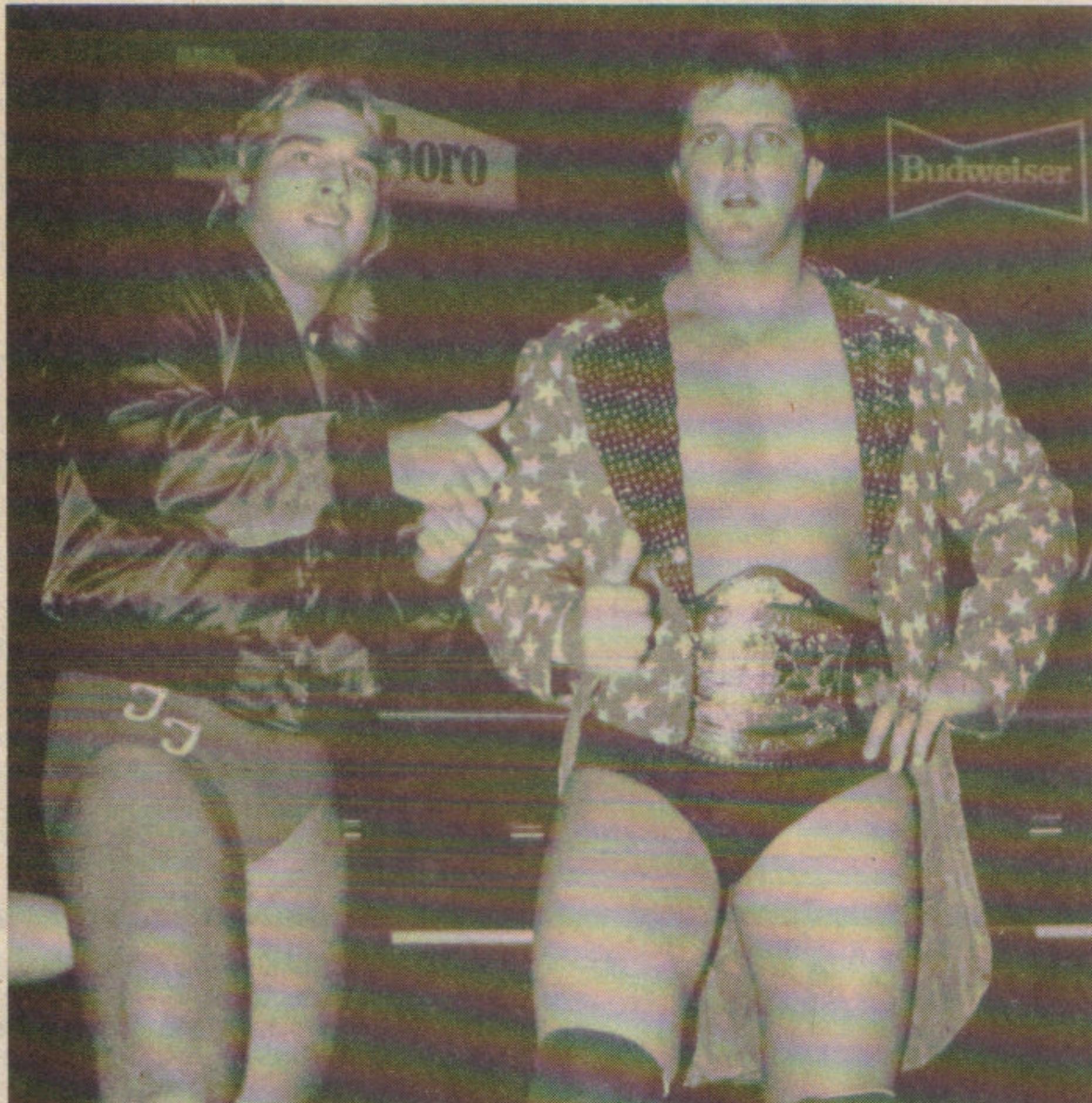
Eight Isn't Enough!
**THE FOUR HORSEMEN
TAKE ON THE
SUPERPOWERS
& ROAD WARRIORS!**



WRESTLING

FRONTPAGE

With Bill Apter



Former UWF tag team champs Terry Taylor and Chris Adams have not been getting along in recent weeks. During a match between the two grapplers, Taylor piledriven Adams after the referee was accidentally knocked out.

MAGNUM T.A. HAS returned to wrestling as a television announcer! The recuperating former United States heavyweight champion has appeared on Universal Wrestling Federation telecasts and is doing color commentary with play-by-play man **Jim Ross**.

Magnum, who suffered life-threatening injuries in an automobile accident last October, is adapting well to his new job while quickly finding out that all is not well in the rough and tough UWF.

On May 3 in Tulsa, Oklahoma, tag team partners **Chris Adams** and **Terry Taylor** wrestled each other in a singles match. Taylor got frustrated

when Adams grabbed the upper hand, so he resorted to illegal kicking and punching. Finally, referee **Carl Fergie** was knocked out in a collision that dazed Taylor and sent Adams to the arena floor.

Taylor checked to make sure that Fergie was unconscious, then jumped out onto the floor and piledriven Adams. Taylor returned to the ring as the referee was waking up, acted like he was still dazed from the collision, and was awarded the victory when Fergie counted out Adams.

Later in the evening, Taylor told interviewer Magnum that he is tired of being a nice guy. "It's gotten me

nowhere so far and I've just about had enough," he said.

What's going on with Taylor? A day earlier in Ft. Worth, Texas, Taylor interrupted Ross' interview with rookie **Steve Cox**, then punched Cox in the face before he left the set. "I don't know what's wrong with Terry, but something's obviously bothering him," said Adams in quite an understatement.

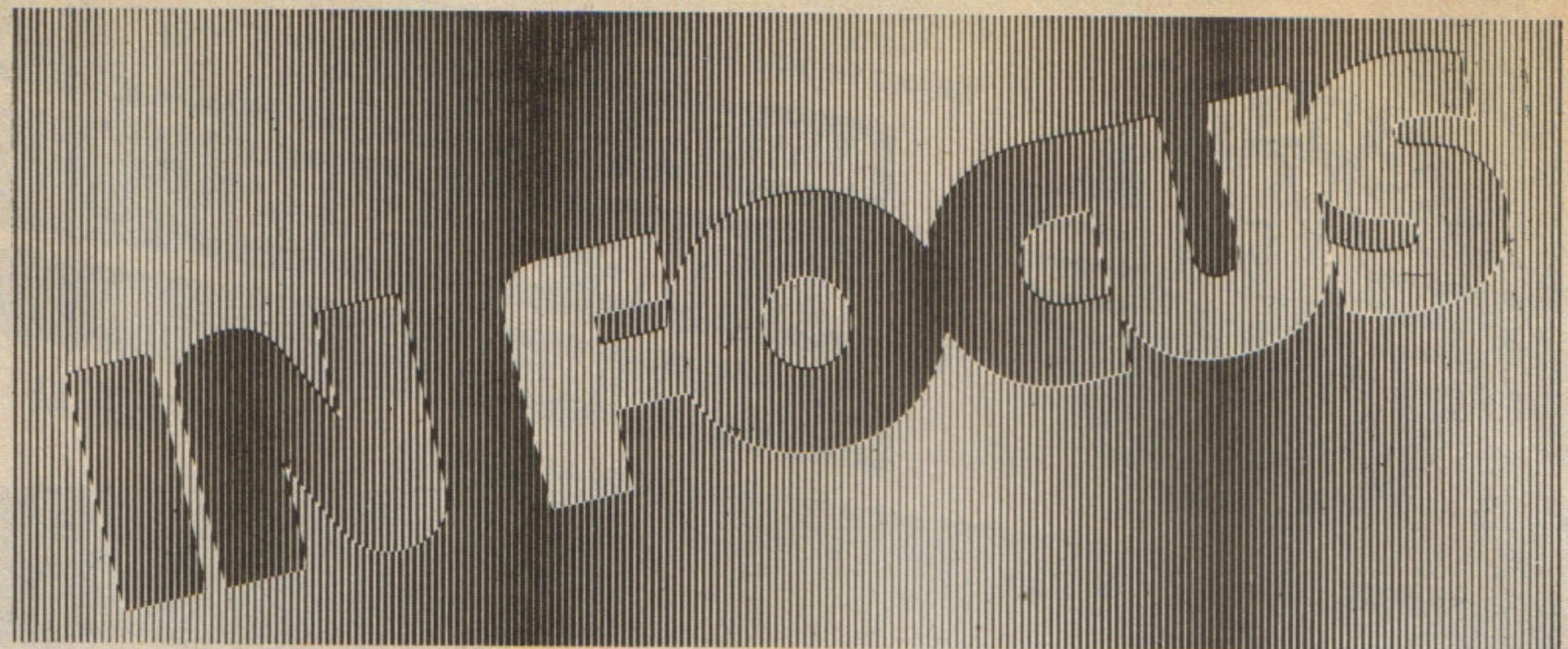
Hulk Hogan and **Ken Patera** wrestled **Andre the Giant** and **Heracles Hernandez** on April 28 at a taping for NBC's **Saturday Night's Main Event**. It was the first meeting between Hogan and Andre since their WrestleMania III clash. Originally, Andre was to team with **Bobby Heenan**, but Heenan's neck had been injured by Patera earlier in the week.

The anticipated confrontation between Andre and Hogan never materialized. Although they were in the ring together for a few minutes, very little actually took place. In the end, Hogan pinned Hernandez for the win.

The crowd was very receptive to the teaming of Hogan and Patera, but one has to wonder if this will develop into a Hogan-Paul Orn-dorff situation. That's an important consideration, because Patera has a long history of association with Heenan. My advice to Hogan: Watch out!

Jack Hart and **Chick Donovan** defeated **Rocky Johnson** and **Soul Train Jones** for the AWA Southern tag team belts in Memphis . . . Up in Calgary, **Ron Starr** has turned on rulebreaking partners **Duke Myers** and **Kerry Brown**. He's now a fan favorite and will team with former archenemy **Owen Hart** . . . **Peter**

(Continued on page 62)



With CRAIG PETERS

A TAG TEAM TO KEEP AN EYE ON

Two months ago, I wrote about how the Florida area has been developing a lot of young wrestlers, and named Sean Royal and Chris Champion—The New Breed—as examples of this year's strong crop of young men.

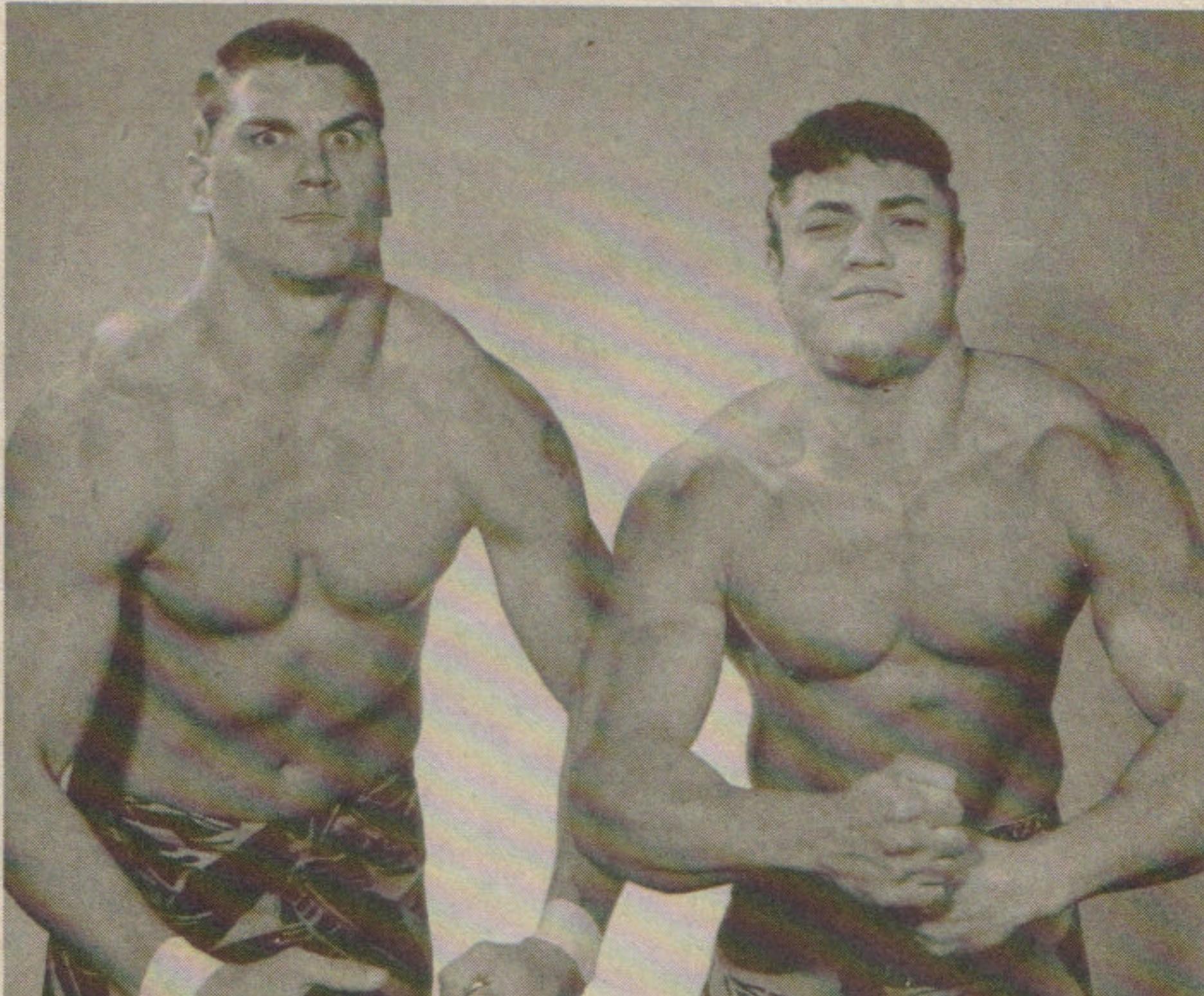
Well, over the past two months, I have to say that The New Breed, who recently moved from Florida to the World Championship area, is the one tag team I'm keeping my eye on. I predict future greatness for this duo.

They enter the ring to the tune of The Beastie Boys' raucous singing: "You gotta fight—for your right—to party!" But they might as well enter to Zager and Evans' '60s rock nugget, "In The Year 2525."

I mean, let's face it: this New Breed is a *weird* breed.

"In the year 2003, there is no Jimmy Valiant," says Sean Royal in a near-chant, "so our victory is self-evident. Your future is our today, because we live in the year 2003, we employ future strategies and tactics against today's wrestlers. That is what makes us unbeatable."

Royal and Champion aren't unbeatable, but they're well on their way to becoming extremely formi-



Sean Royal & Chris Champion: The New Breed

dable. Their double-teaming tactics are the best I've seen in years. I don't agree with their methods, and I'm a little unnerved by their futuristic ramblings, but I've got to admit that these two guys have one of the largest deposits of raw talent I've seen since The Road Warriors hit the scene. As soon as Royal and Champion manage to get some more experience under their belts,

as soon as they iron out their teamwork, and as soon as they face a wider variety of opponents, they ought to be awesome.

"In the year 2003, we've been partying like it's 1999 for four years already," Champion says with a smile. "Nobody in the World Championship area can keep up with us, we're years ahead of everybody, in every sense of the word."

Eight Isn't Enough!

An incredible eight-man tag team match, featuring some of the greatest stars in the NWA, became a 10-man brawl when managers

J.J. Dillon and Paul Ellering got into the act. The violence is just the beginning of a war that promises to shake the very foundations of the sport

TRY TO ENVISION the following situation: Arn Anderson, Lex Luger, Ric Flair, Tully Blanchard, Dusty Rhodes, Nikita Koloff, Road Warrior Animal, and Road Warrior Hawk in the ring at the same time. And it's not a battle royal!

Try to imagine the bloodshed, the pounding and punishment that each man's flesh would be forced to endure. Certainly, it wouldn't be wrestling: It would be war, an all-out battle of power and strength as eight of the fiercest men in the sport square off. It's an eight-man tag team match in which anything could and would happen.

But in this case, eight men in the ring *wouldn't* be enough. J.J. Dillon, manager of The Four Horsemen, and Paul Ellering, manager of The Road Warriors, wouldn't be able to watch the madness and mayhem from ring-side. They'd most certainly get involved in the carnage, if not by choice, then by force. Suddenly, 10 men would be in the ring, and the violence would multiply.

It *can't* happen, you say? It *never* happened, you insist? It *won't* happen, you argue? But it can happen, it did happen, and it just might happen again. At the Ocean Center in Daytona Beach, Florida, The Four Horsemen

THE FOUR HORSEMEN



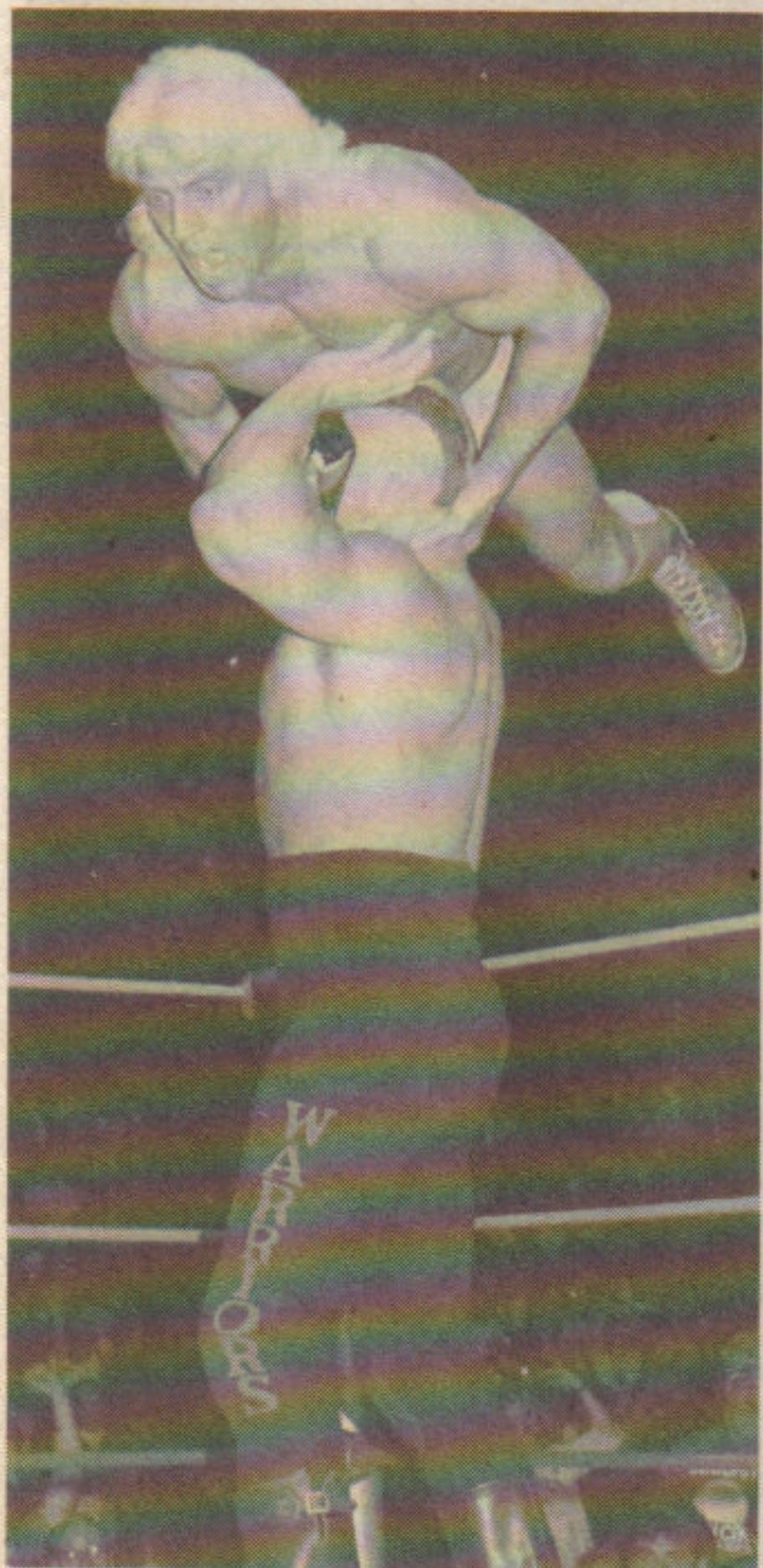
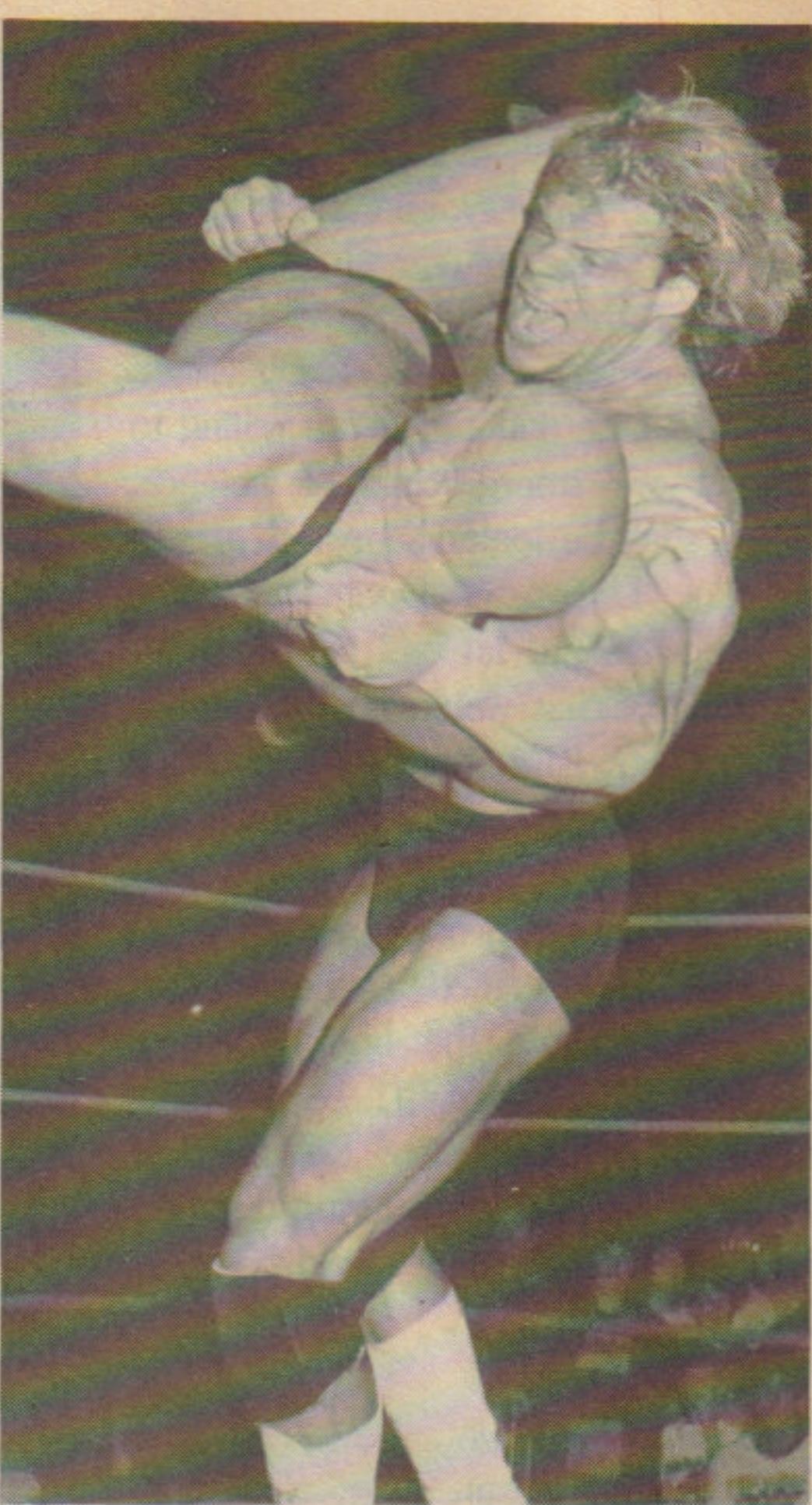
TAKE ON THE SUPERPOWERS



& ROAD WARRIORS!



Paul Ellering chokes J.J. Dillon with his own tie, temporarily preventing him from interfering on behalf of his Four Horsemen (above). Lex Luger applies a backbreaker against Nikita Koloff (right). It was the first time The Four Horsemen appeared in a match together.



Road Warrior Hawk presses Ric Flair. When eight of the finest wrestlers in the NWA square off in the same ring, a wild match is a certainty.

squared off against The Superpowers and The Road Warriors. And eight wasn't enough.

The Four Horsemen are widely known in professional wrestling as the most dangerous cooperative in the sport. Until April 26, however, all four men had never wrestled together in one bout—unless one is to count the numerous times they have interfered in each other's matches.

"This is certainly a momentous occasion for professional wrestling," said J.J. Dillon prior to the eight-man battle. "The fans here in Florida are witnesses to sports history, to one of the greatest events of all time. The four greatest wrestlers in the entire world, The Four Horsemen, the elite of this great sport, are finally teaming together in one match."

There was pandemonium in The Four Horsemen's dressing room as match time approached. Four egos were at work, each boasting about what they would do once the match began. Flair strutted around the room, talking about his latest amorous con-

quest. Luger flexed his muscles in front of a mirror and spoke of how he would overpower The Road Warriors and Nikita Koloff. Blanchard winked at a female admirer and made plans for "the elimination of that human embarrassment Dusty Rhodes." And Arn Anderson vowed that "the glory of the Andersons' great legacy would carry The Horsemen through."

Suddenly, Dillon clapped his hands, cleared the dressing room of all reporters, and summoned the Horsemen to a corner of the room. "This is the night of our shining glory," Dillon later said he told them. "We are together for the first time, and we will prove to one and all that we *cannot* be beaten."

The atmosphere was more serene in another dressing room in a different section of the arena. Road Warrior Hawk and Road Warrior Animal applied their facial makeup. Nikita Koloff did some warmup pushups and leg stretches. Dusty Rhodes sipped a diet soda while reading a copy of the latest Stephen King novel.

Meanwhile, Paul Ellering spoke with

a trio of reporters. "I was against this match at first because I saw no chance of it being wrestled fairly," said Ellering. "I can virtually guarantee that a brawl will break out, because that's the nature of the feelings between these men. However, if Flair and Blanchard and Anderson and Luger are willing to dine at our smorgasbord of violence, then I shall be looking forward to seeing The Legion of Doom and The Superpowers put an end to The Four Horsemen. That would be the equivalent of an IBM three-for-one stock split, and would make this evening truly worthwhile."

Still, there was worry on the face of Ellering. He seemed to know that somewhere along the line he would have to get involved. There was little chance that Ellering and Dillon would act solely as managers during this epic battle. Eventually, they would be wrestlers, too.

Ellering was right. He and Dillon finally joined in an eight-man brawl that thrilled the fans but was contrary to every rule of professional wrestling. Truly, this wasn't wrestling. There was no science involved and no significant level of strategic maneuvering. This



Dusty Rhodes covers Arn Anderson for the pin, but that is almost secondary to the action taking place outside the ring.



The Horsemen and Dillon catch a breather after The Superpowers and Road Warriors clean house. Individually or collectively, the members of each team are not nearly finished with one another.

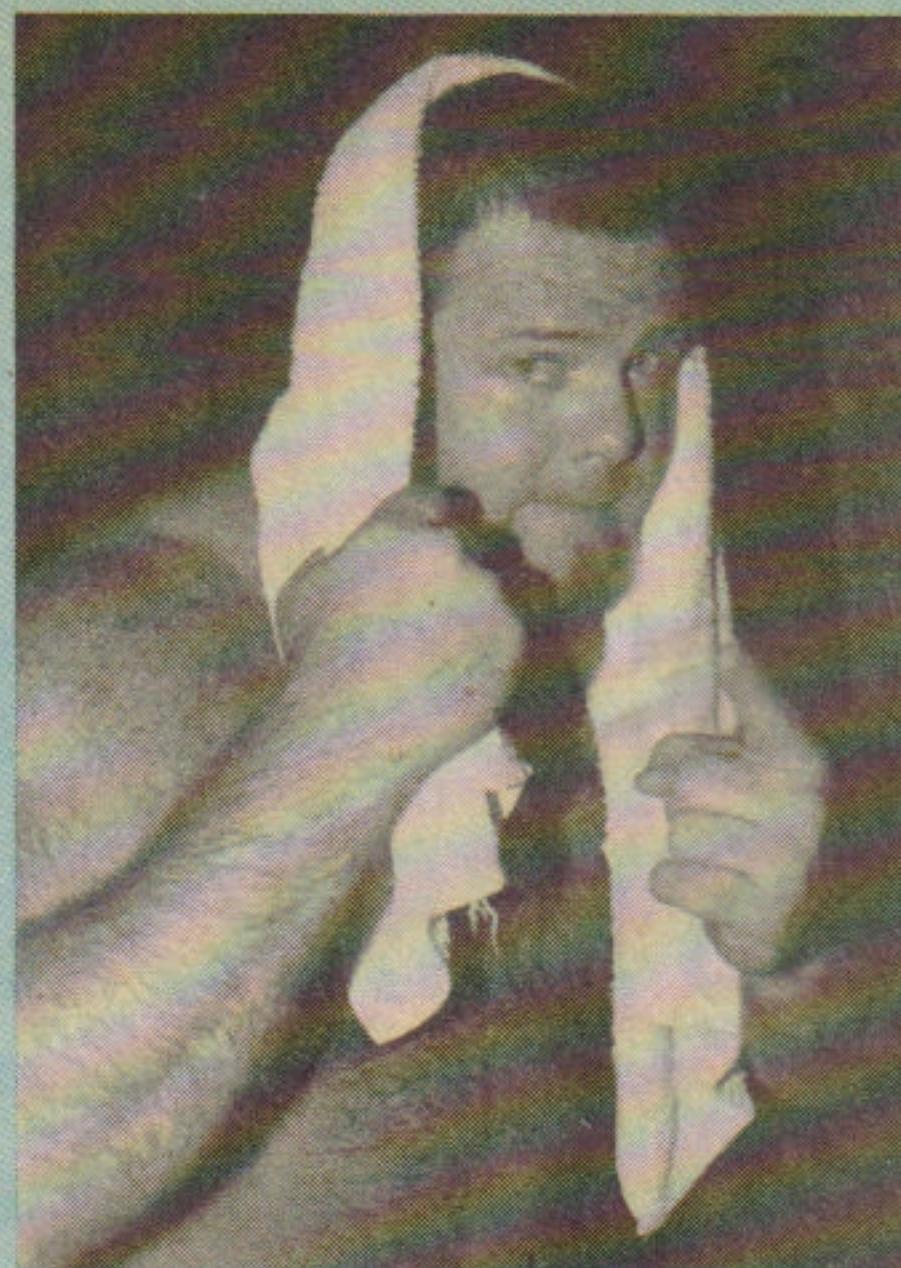
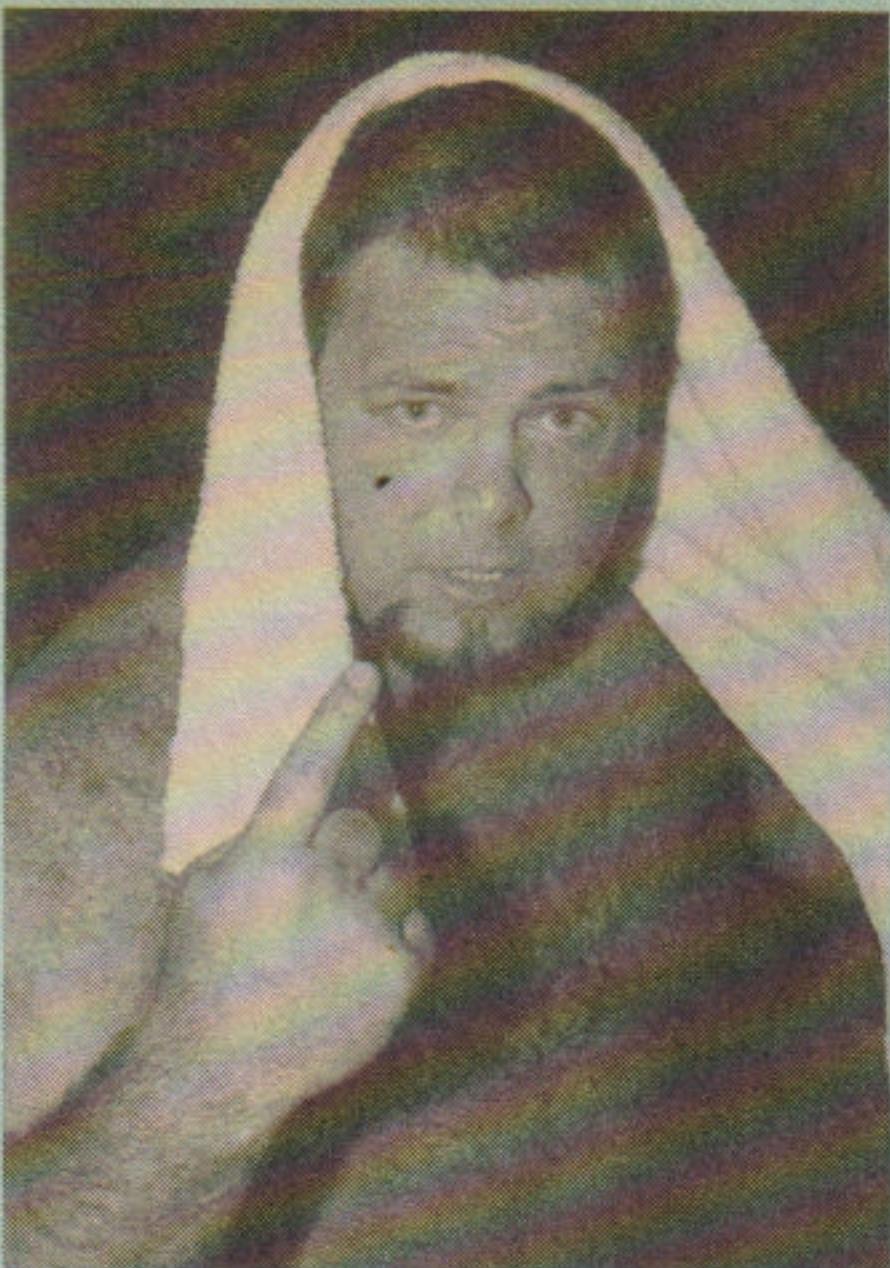
was a street fight, a battle to the death, an all-out attempt by all 10 men to inflict as much injury on their opponents as possible.

The brawl spilled outside the ring, and threatened to spread throughout the arena and out the building into the streets of Daytona Beach. It finally ended, amid much commotion and confusion, when Rhodes delivered a vicious elbowsmash to a prone Arn Anderson. Rhodes covered him for the pin, but nobody seemed to care.

They didn't care because there were no winners in this match. There can never be a winner when such pain and such callous disregard for human life is involved.

And it *will* happen again. It *has* to happen again. What was started must be finished. That is the nature of the sport, the nature of these men. There will be more bloodshed, more bruises, more battered bones. More four-on-four—and five-on-five—wars.

Because when eight isn't enough, once can never be enough, either. □



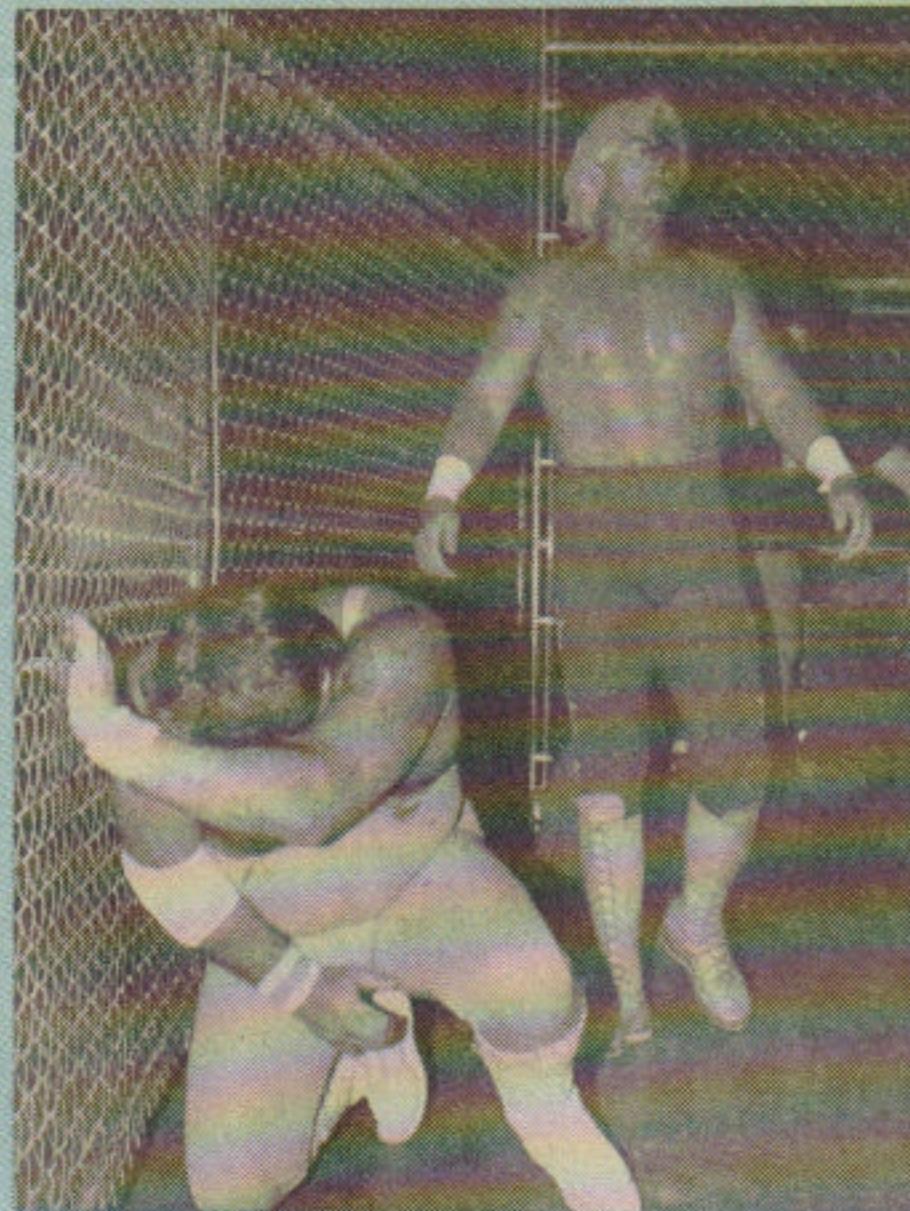
"Those two conniving, lowdown snunks [Tommy Rich and Austin Idol] got together and teamed up on me. I'm not gonna forget that, and I'm not gonna forget what they did to me."

BILL APTER: I've known you for a long time, Jerry, and I don't remember ever seeing you involved in a feud where there have been so many injuries and so many bitter feelings. Would you agree that this is the most intense feud you've ever been involved in?

JERRY LAWLER: Well, let me tell you something, Bill. Whatever feud you're currently involved in always seems like the worst one, but yes, this one is right up there. I've been going tooth and nail with Idol and Rich for the past five months and, to tell you the truth, I just don't see this one ending.

DAVE ROSENBAUM: Never? Every feud eventually comes to an end, or at least cools down, so what do you think will end this one?

LAWLER: Dave, I'm telling you that there's a good chance that this one will go on for a very long time. Remember, Rich is not one to give up easily. He practically destroyed his career with that Buzz Sawyer feud a few years back, but he wasn't stopping until it was settled. Idol has too big an ego to just lay back and quit. And as



As Idol pauses in his attack, Lawler tries to regain composure. Lawler predicts his feud with Idol and Rich will continue for a long time.

for me, well, I've now had two ruptured testicles, I've had my hair cut, and I've lost the Mid-Southern title twice. The way I see it, I have nothing left to lose.

CRAIG PETERS: So what are you trying to say? What exactly are you trying to prove with this feud?

LAWLER: If you remember, I didn't

exactly get this thing started. Rich came running in one night late last year and started demanding a shot at [AWA World champion Nick] Bockwinkel. He was possessed, and I have no idea what made him think he would get the shot when it was mine. Then, I figured I'd be a good guy and put the title shot at Bockwinkel up for grabs, so I wrestled Rich for the rights to meet Bockwinkel, and I won. But that didn't satisfy him. He wanted the shot handed to him on a silver platter.

STU SAKS: And then Austin Idol got involved.

LAWLER: Exactly, and that was the craziest thing I've ever seen. I told him he was out of his mind demanding a match against Bockwinkel. Now you tell me: What the heck did Austin Idol ever do to deserve a match against Bockwinkel when there were several guys around who were more worthy of one?

APTER: Good question, but you kind of gave in to him, also, didn't you?

LAWLER: Listen, Bill, I give in to no one, but I thought that maybe I'd try

(Continued on page 68)

SUPERCARDS

'87

EXCLUSIVE COVERAGE OF WRESTLING'S HISTORY-MAKING SPRING SEASON!

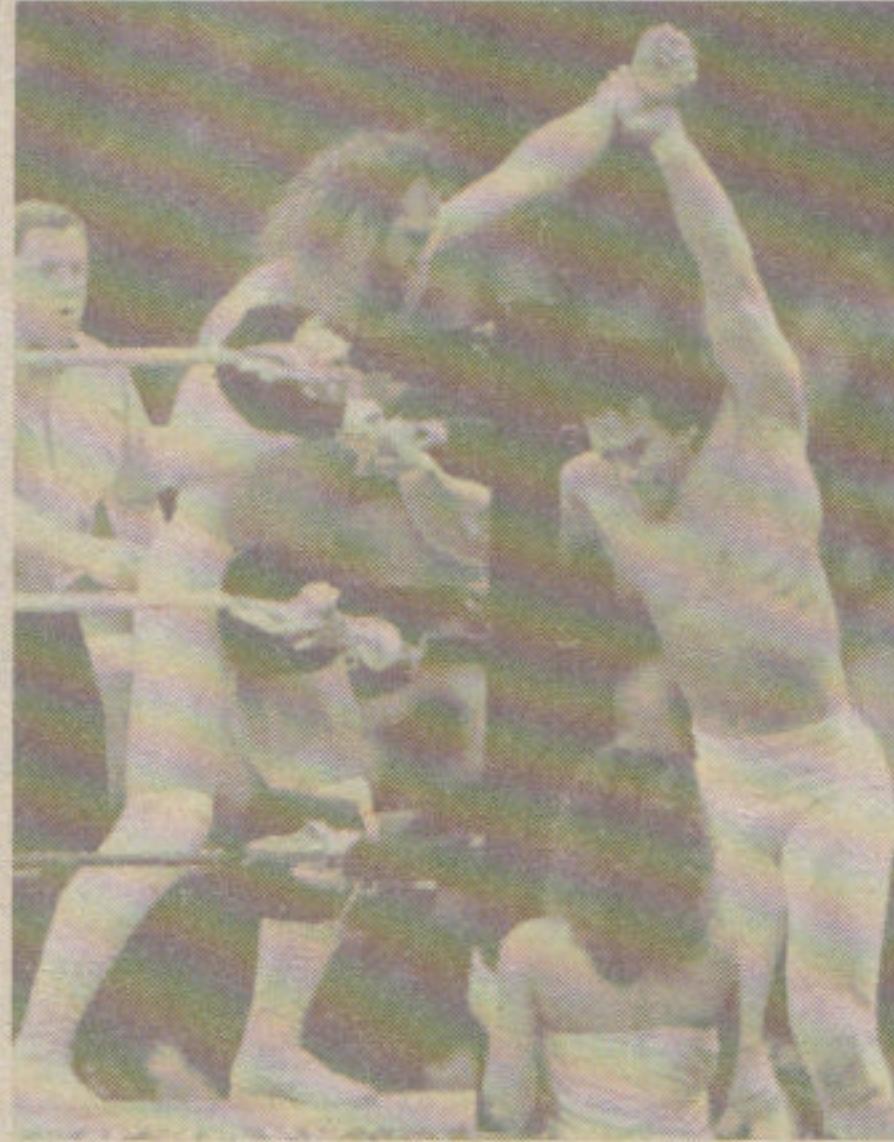
WrestleMania III . . . the second annual Jim Crockett Sr. Memorial Cup tag team tournament . . . the UWF's Superblast At The Superdome . . . the fourth annual David Von Erich Memorial Parade Of Champions—it was a remarkable spring season for professional wrestling that could only be known as SuperCards '87!

By Dave Rosenbaum

FOR DECADES, PROFESSIONAL wrestling was without one major event. Baseball had its World Series. Football had its Super Bowl. Thoroughbred racing had its Kentucky Derby. And auto racing had its Indianapolis 500. But there was never one major spectacle to tie together the wrestling year, to bring the fans together for one great day of wrestling.

Over the past several years, however, things have changed. With the establishment of the David Von Erich Memorial Parade Of Champions in 1984, WrestleMania in 1985, and the Jim Crockett Sr. Memorial Cup tag team tournament in 1986, wrestling fans finally have a full compliment of major annual events to look forward to.

We at *Pro Wrestling Illustrated* call them the SuperCards, the sport's greatest stars in the year's greatest shows. Our coverage of SuperCards '87 includes WrestleMania III, the second annual Jim Crockett Sr. Memorial Cup tag team tournament, the fourth annual



Rick Steamboat struggles to get back into the ring against Randy Savage as Savage's manager, Elizabeth, looks on.

David Von Erich Memorial Parade Of Champions, and the UWF's Superblast At The Superdome.

In addition, we've also added coverage of three cards that weren't part of the SuperCards calendar, but turned out to be memorable events as well: the AWA's Easter Sunday \$50,000 tag team

tournament, the April 12 combined UWF-Deep South card at The Omni, and an outstanding April 27 Mid-Southern show at Memphis' Mid-South Coliseum.

What follows is an examination of all seven cards. We provide you with facts and figures and analyses of match quality and fan reaction. We tell you whether the card was a success, a failure, or where in the middle of those two extremes it fell. We cut through the promoters' hype and put the cards in historical perspective.

So sit back and enjoy our coverage of the year's greatest shows. It's SuperCards '87—and you are there!

WRESTLEMANIA III took place Sunday, March 29, 1987 . . . Held at The Silverdome in Pontiac, Michigan, near Detroit . . . Shown at more than 160 closed-circuit locations around the United States and Canada . . . Made available to more than 5.5 million pay-per-view cable households . . . A videocas-

WRESTLEMANIA III—FULL RESULTS

- The Can-Am Connection defeated Cowboy Bob Orton and Magnificent Muraco when Martel pinned Muraco via a high cross-bodyblock at 5:37.
- Billy Jack Haynes and Hercules Hernandez battled to a double-countout after 7:44 of action.
- Hillbilly Jim, The Haiti Kid, and Little Beaver won their match against King Kong Bundy, Little Tokyo, and Lord Littlebrook when Bundy was disqualified at 3:25 for bodyslamming and elbowsmashing Little Beaver.
- Harley Race pinned Junkyard Dog at the 4:22 mark via a belly-to-belly suplex.
- Brutus Beefcake and Greg Valentine won their match against Jacques and Raymond Rougeau when Valentine (with the help of Dino Bravo) pinned Raymond at the 4:03 mark.
- Roddy Piper defeated Adrian Adonis with the sleeper-

hold at the 6:20 mark of Piper's retirement match, winning the right to shave Adonis' head.

- The Hart Foundation and Danny Davis beat The British Bulldogs and Tito Santana when Davis pinned Davey Boy Smith at 8:52.
- Butch Reed reversed Koko B. Ware's high cross-bodyblock at 3:39 to score a pinfall victory.
- Rick Steamboat ended Randy Savage's 13-month WWF Intercontinental heavyweight title reign after 14:35 of non-stop action.
- The Honky Tonk Man won his match against Jake Roberts with the help of bad officiating at the 7:04 mark.
- The Killer Bees were disqualified in their bout against Nikolai Volkoff and The Iron Sheik when Hacksaw Duggan interfered on the Bees' behalf at 5:44.
- Hulk Hogan pinned Andre the Giant at the 12:01 mark.

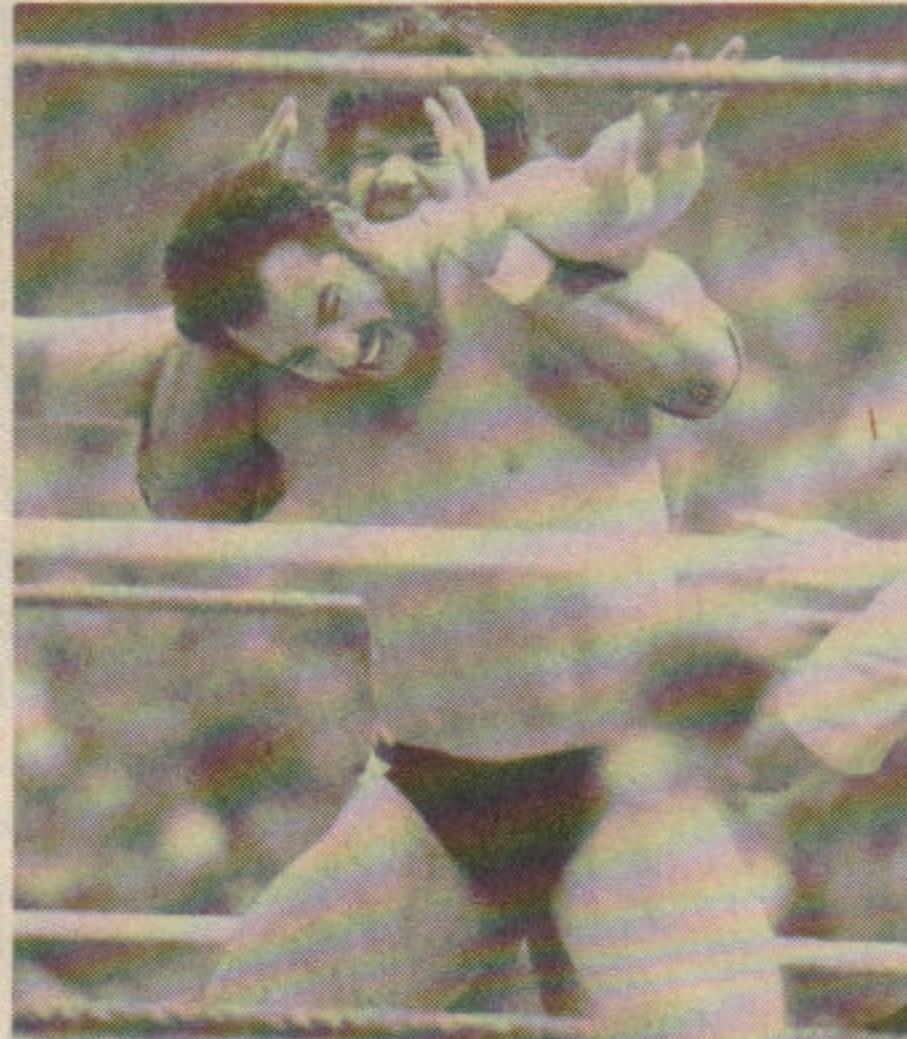
sette of the entire card is now available.

This time, the WWF finally got it right. WrestleMania III lived up to all expectations. It was, without a doubt, the greatest, most successful event in wrestling history.

A preoccupation with boxing matches and celebrities such as Cyndi Lauper and Mr. T clouded the first two WrestleManias. In 1987, the WWF finally stuck to wrestling and got its just reward. A record indoor crowd of 93,173 fans packed The Silverdome to capacity, some paying upwards of \$100 for a ringside seat. Hundreds of thousands more in the U.S. and Canada watched on closed-circuit television. When everything is added up, the total gross from WrestleMania III should be near \$25 million.

Ironically, WrestleMania III didn't attract nearly the media attention of its two predecessors. In 1985, WrestleMania was the rage as newspapers and magazines around the world provided exten-

sive coverage of the show. WrestleMania III was a far bigger and more significant show, but only the Detroit area papers gave it the coverage it deserved. Many of the



Billy Jack Haynes is a mere six inches from securing a full-nelson against Hercules Hernandez. Neither man was able to apply the hold.

nation's daily papers provided only brief day-after stories, while many more ignored the event completely.

To its credit, the WWF proved

that it has learned from its mistakes with WrestleMania III. In 1986, WrestleMania 2 was held at three sites, each hosting four matches. Attendance was disappointing. The three-site idea was also impractical from a television standpoint because the WWF required separate broadcasting crews for each venue.

This year, the WWF consolidated its effort. It chose to hold the event at only one site: the Silverdome in Pontiac, Michigan. Plenty of seats (more than 93,000), proximity to Ontario, Canada (where WWF fan interest is enormous), and simpler logistics were the obvious advantages.

Of course, Vince McMahon could have done everything right—from the television production to the virtual elimination of celebrities to the choice of a site—but it would all have been moot without the main event, thought by many to be the most appealing match in the sport's history. The undefeated Andre the Giant vs.

FACTS AND FIGURES FROM WRESTLEMANIA III

- There were 13 matches on the card, which lasted three hours and 20 minutes, including a 15-minute intermission.
- There was one hour, 23 minutes, and 26 seconds of actual wrestling action.
- The average length of a WrestleMania III match was six minutes and 25 seconds.
- The crowd of 93,173 was a North American indoor attendance record.
- Ticket prices ranged from \$100 for ringside to \$9 for the upper reaches of the Silverdome.
- The average price for pay-per-view viewing at home was \$19.95.
- Closed-circuit ticket prices ranged from \$20 to \$9.
- According to the *Detroit Free Press*, 76,000 hot sandwiches, 7,000 slices of pizza, 13,000 orders of nachos, 25,000 orders of popcorn, 3,000 gallons of soft drinks, and 15,000 gallons of

beer were prepared for the event.

- The WWF employed 12 television cameras, eight replay machines, two production trucks, and two satellites for its closed-circuit and pay-per-view telecast of the show.
- Gorilla Monsoon and Jesse Ventura handled the commentary on the telecast, with Gene Okerlund and Vince McMahon, Jr. handling interviews. Guest celebrities Mary Hart and Bob Uecker also did some match commentary.
- An 18-inch high platform was constructed to raise the ring so it could be seen by the vast crowd sitting on the floor of the Silverdome.
- The WWF distributed 30,000 photos, 10,000 press kits, and 12,000 promotional posters.
- The WWF was estimated to have grossed \$20-25 million in combined ticket sales.

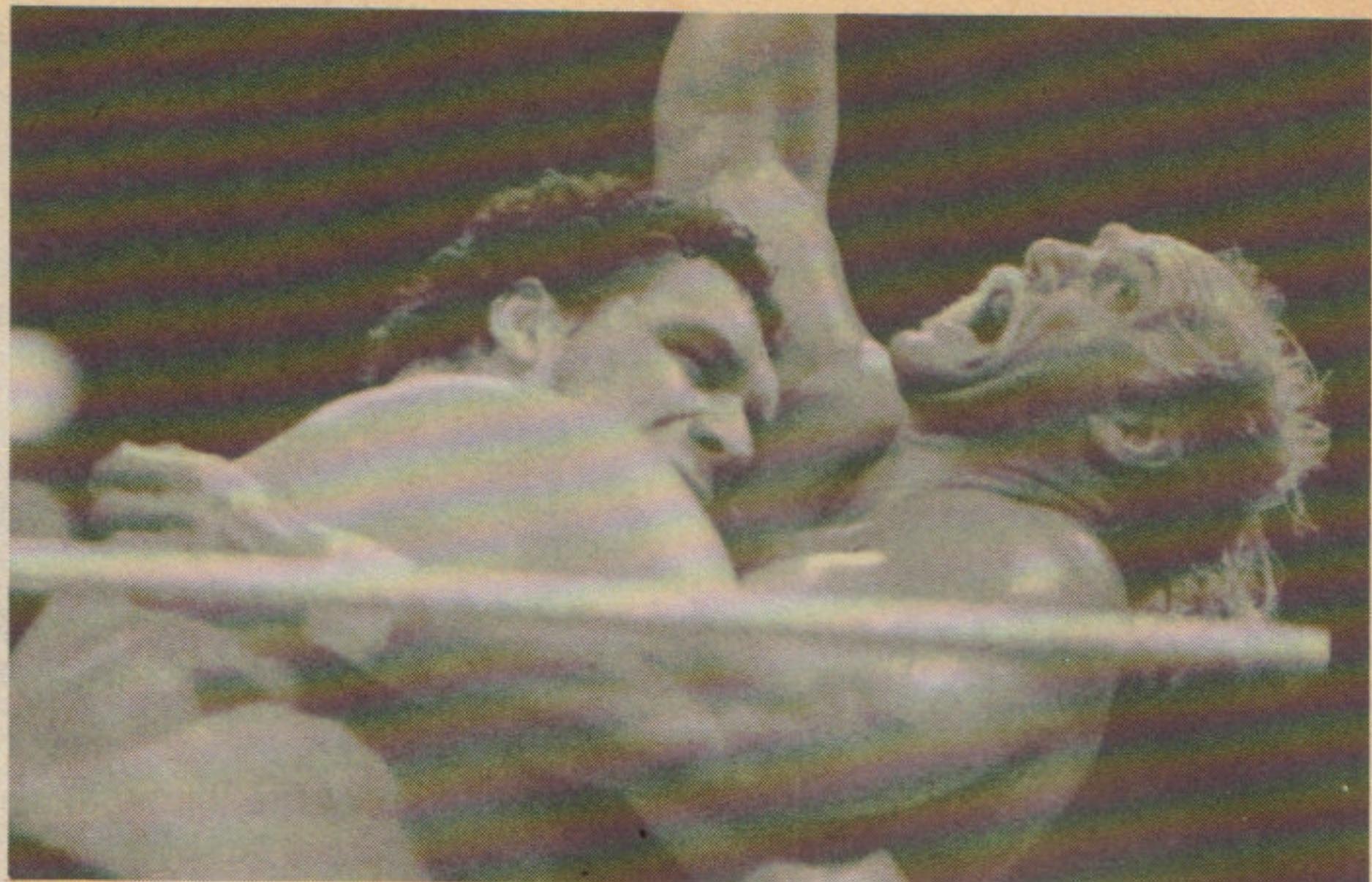
WWF World champion Hulk Hogan for the heavyweight title.

Although Hogan-Andre was hardly a battle of two highly accomplished athletes—Hogan relies mostly on his strength, while Andre is far past his prime and far above his ideal weight—the match certainly lived up to its advance billing. Andre almost pinned Hogan after just a few seconds, but he eventually succumbed to the champion despite dominating most of the match.

But Hogan-Andre was not the best match on the card. That status was reserved for Rick Steamboat's Intercontinental title victory over Randy Savage. There were 19 two-counts in this match, 11 by Steamboat, and much of the action in this fast-paced battle took place high above the mat and outside of the ring.

There were other memorable moments in WrestleMania III: The Dream Team, Brutus Beefcake and Greg Valentine, had a severe falling out during their victory over The Rougeaus. And, of course, Roddy Piper's victory in his retirement match against Adrian Adonis, in which he enlisted Beefcake's help to shave Adonis's head. Piper's final exit from the ring was a touching scene, as the crowd stood and cheered "The Rowdy Scot."

The other matches ranged from the outstanding (The Can-Am Con-



Andre the Giant wrapped his massive arms around Hulk Hogan's torso and held him in a bearhug for a full two minutes and 34 seconds. Hogan showed a lot by breaking the hold and recovering quickly to gain the advantage in this classic title match.

nnection's win over Magnificent Muraco and Bob Orton) to the very good (Danny Davis and The Hart Foundation's defeat of The British Bulldogs and Tito Santana) to the not-so-good (Harley Race's pin of Junkyard Dog) to the awful (the six-man midget/heavyweights match). In all, the WWF certainly made the most of its bulging talent pool.

The WWF set a new standard of success with WrestleMania III. This is the card by which all other big shows will be judged. It is, in fact, the WrestleMania by which all future and past WrestleManias will be judged. From every standpoint, the show was an overwhelming success. Financially, it

was the highest grossing show in the sport's history. From a wrestling standpoint, it could barely be faulted. Even the television broadcast of the card was up to the highest standards of sports programming.

WrestleMania III did, indeed, make history. It will never be forgotten.

THE JIM CROCKETT SR. MEMORIAL CUP TAG TEAM TOURNAMENT took place Friday, April 10 and Saturday, April 11, 1986... All matches were held in The Baltimore Arena: the first round and quarterfinals on Friday, (Continued on page 47)

THE FIFTH MAN IN THE RING

Dusty Rhodes and Nikita Koloff probably didn't need it. There's a very good chance that they would have beaten Tully Blanchard and Lex Luger in the final match of the Jim Crockett Sr. Memorial Cup tag team tournament without the incredible emotional lift they received moments before the match—when Magnum T.A. walked to the ring.

But Magnum was there and the emotional lift was undeniable. "It was almost as if it was Dusty, Nikita, and Magnum wrestling Luger and Blanchard," said Barry Windham. "I've been around for a long time, but I've never seen anything like what took place before the finals."

What happened was, for many, the highlight of the two-day \$1 million tournament. Rhodes and Nikita knew that Magnum was in attendance, but they didn't know that he would walk to the ring prior to the finals. In reality, they didn't know if he could.

But when Magnum T.A. appeared in the run-



MAGNUM T.A.

way with a cane, his right arm in a sling, the fans rose to their feet as if they were witnessing a miracle. In a way they were, because back in October, when Magnum was in his near-fatal car accident, doctors said that he would never walk again.

He can walk, although the Magnum of April 1987 was a far cry from the Magnum who teamed with Ronnie Garvin and went all the way to the finals of the '86 Crockett Cup before losing to The Road Warriors. T.A. took his steps carefully, but was urged on by the incredible roar of the crowd.

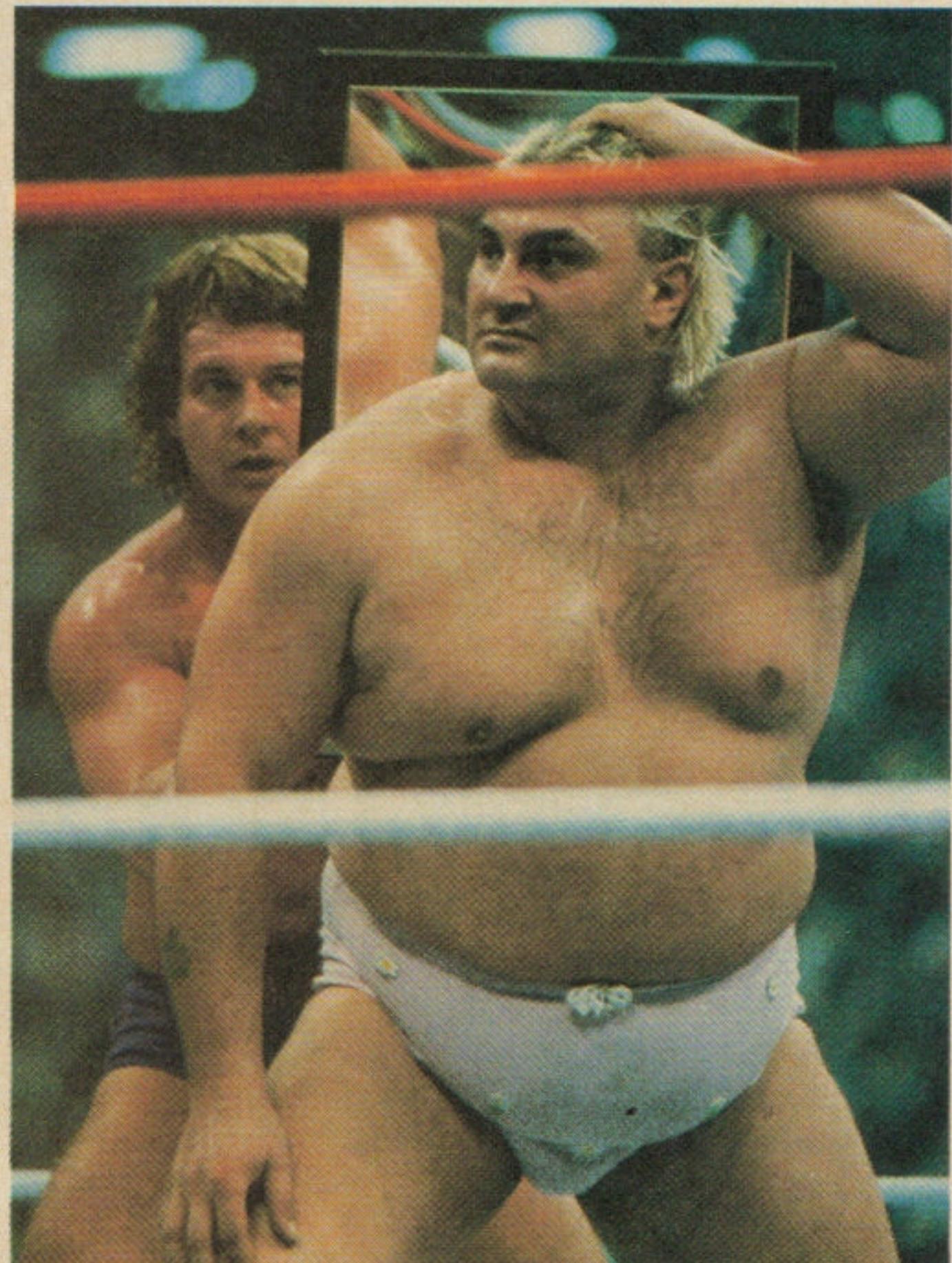
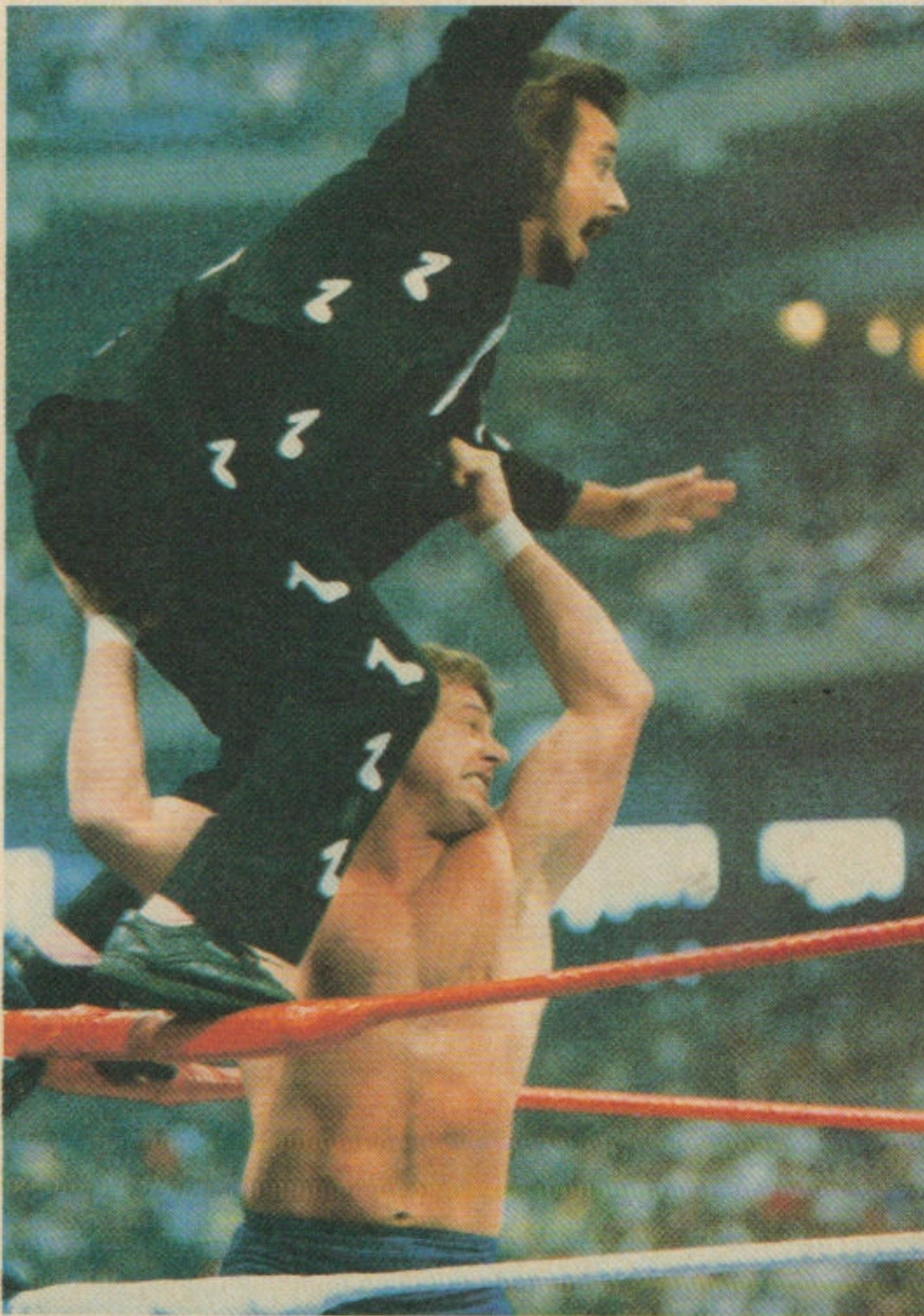
When he finally got to ringside, T.A. hugged his old friend, Dusty, and his new friend, Nikita, who came to Magnum's side after the accident. Tears began to fall from Magnum's eyes and the noise level in the Baltimore Arena rose again. Finally, Magnum T.A. turned and went back to the dressing room. The damage he had inflicted on Luger and Blanchard's hopes had been done.

SUPERCARDS '87

WRESTLEMANIA III



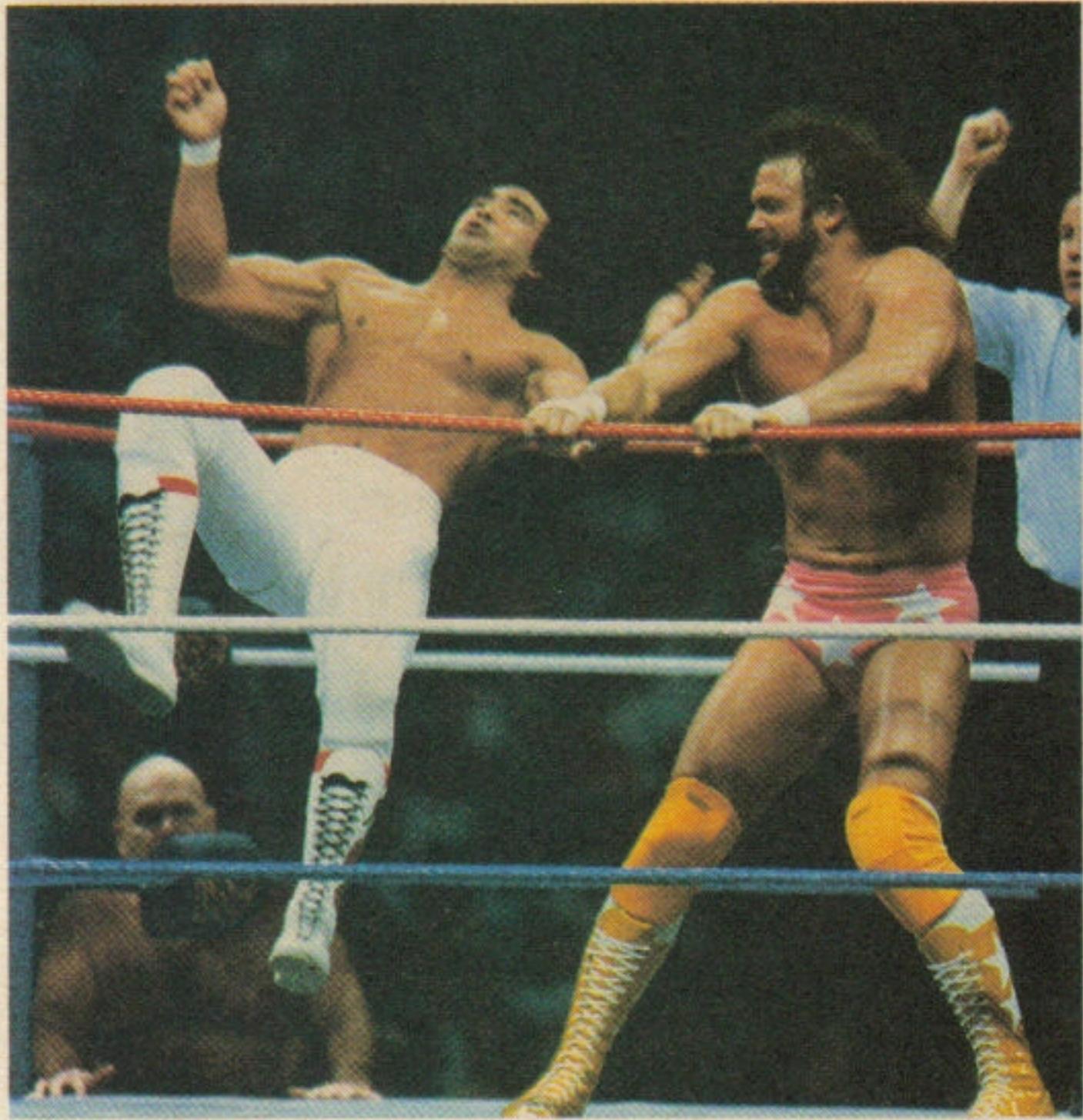
Davey Boy Smith sets Danny Davis up for a piledriver (left). Butch Reed pulls Koko B. Ware off the ropes (above). In the midst of his match with Jake Roberts, The Honky Tonk Man looks for praise from the crowd (right).



Jimmy Hart can't keep his nose out of the action, so Roddy Piper throws him out of the way (left). Piper shows Adrian Adonis what he looks like after Brutus Beefcake shaved his head (above).

SUPERCARDS '87

WRESTLEMANIA III



Randy Savage yanks on the ropes, sending Rick Steamboat flying (above). Steamboat lifts Savage up with a choke (below left). Before Savage can use the timekeeper's bell on Steamboat, George Steele pushes him off the turnbuckle (below right). Shortly after, Steamboat took Savage's title.



Hulk Hogan fights to resist the power of Andre the Giant's bearhug (above). Andre slams Hogan (below). The Giant nearly pinned Hogan with that maneuver, but the champion won the match and handed Andre his first loss.

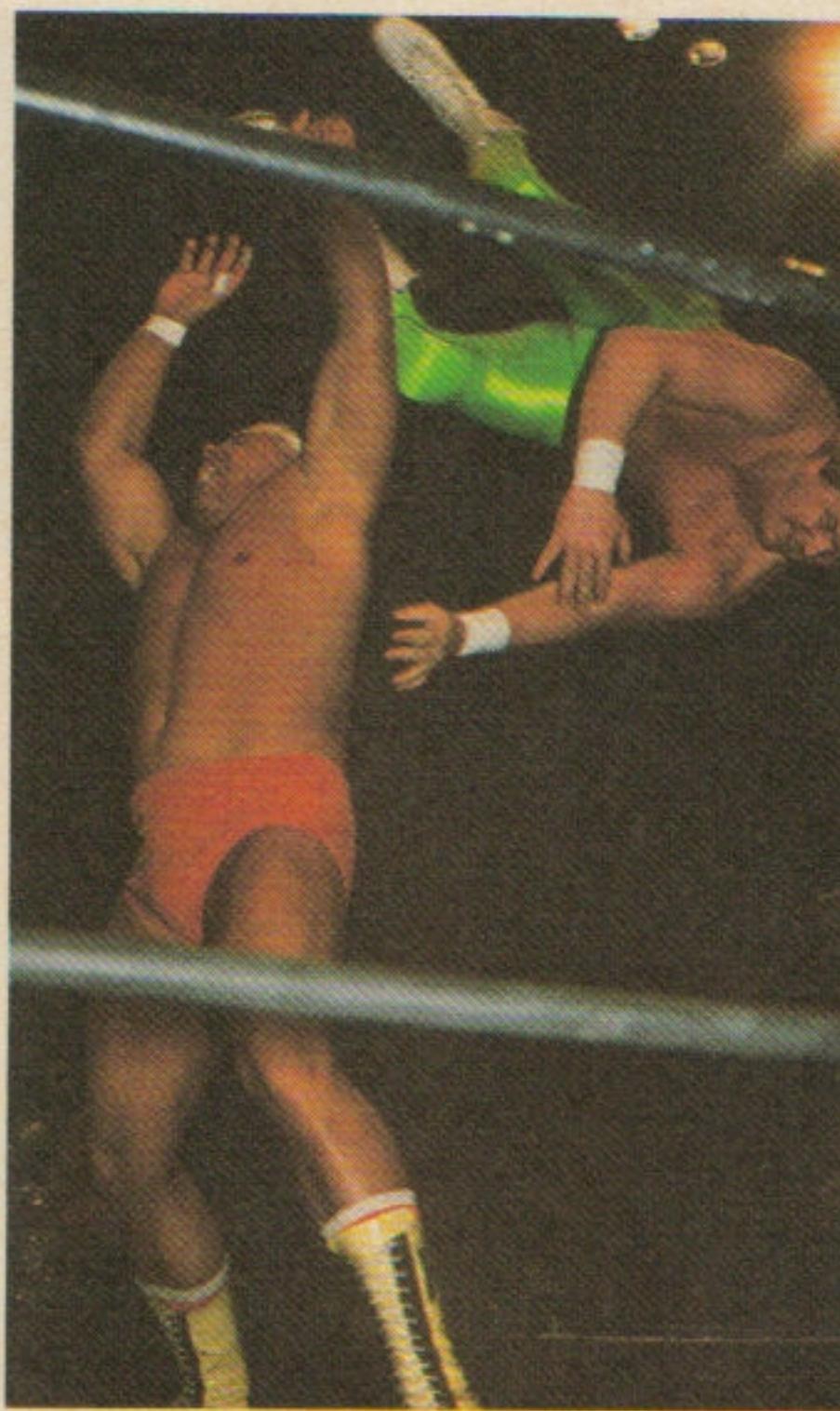


SUPERCARDS '87

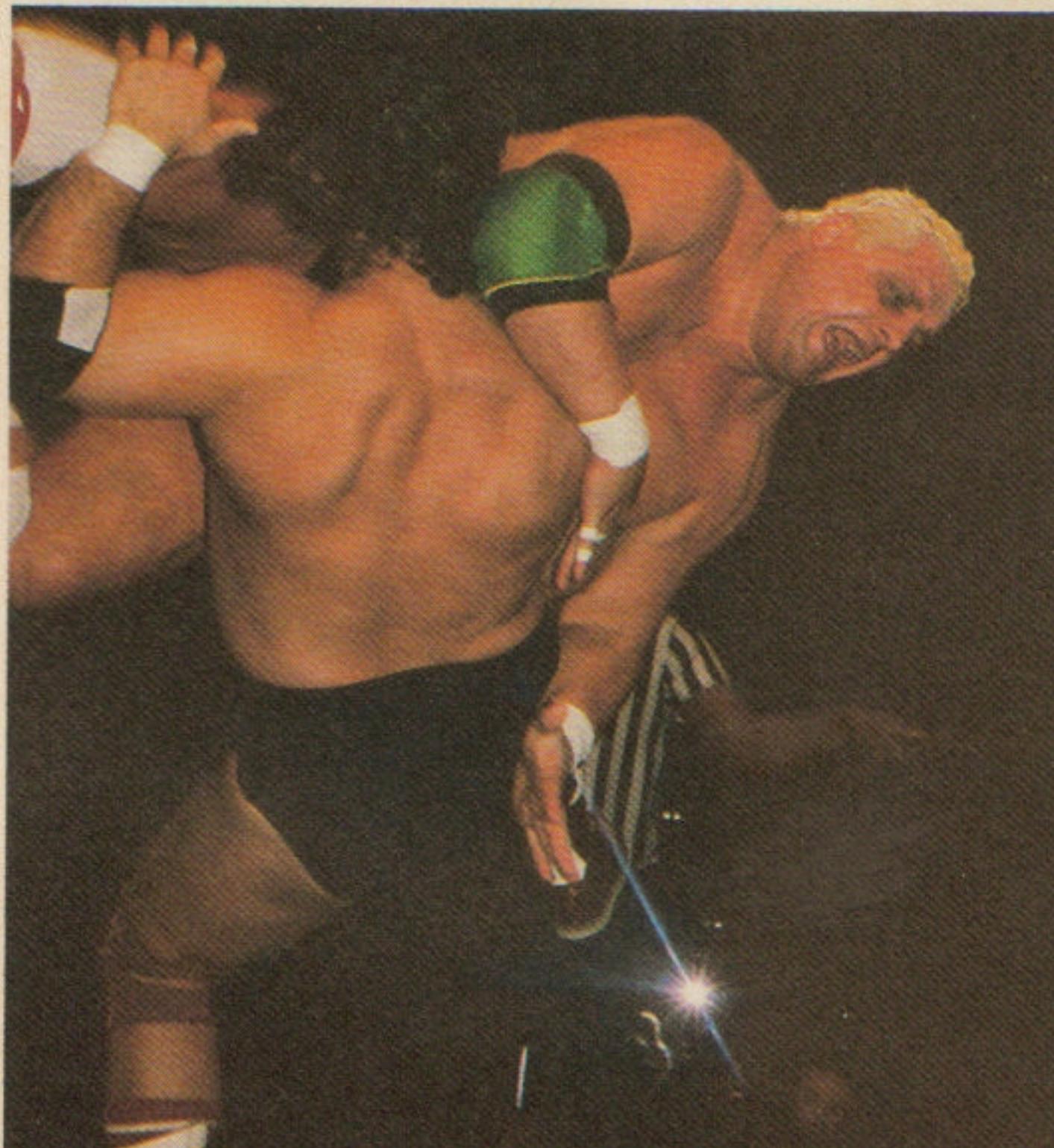
CROCKETT CUP



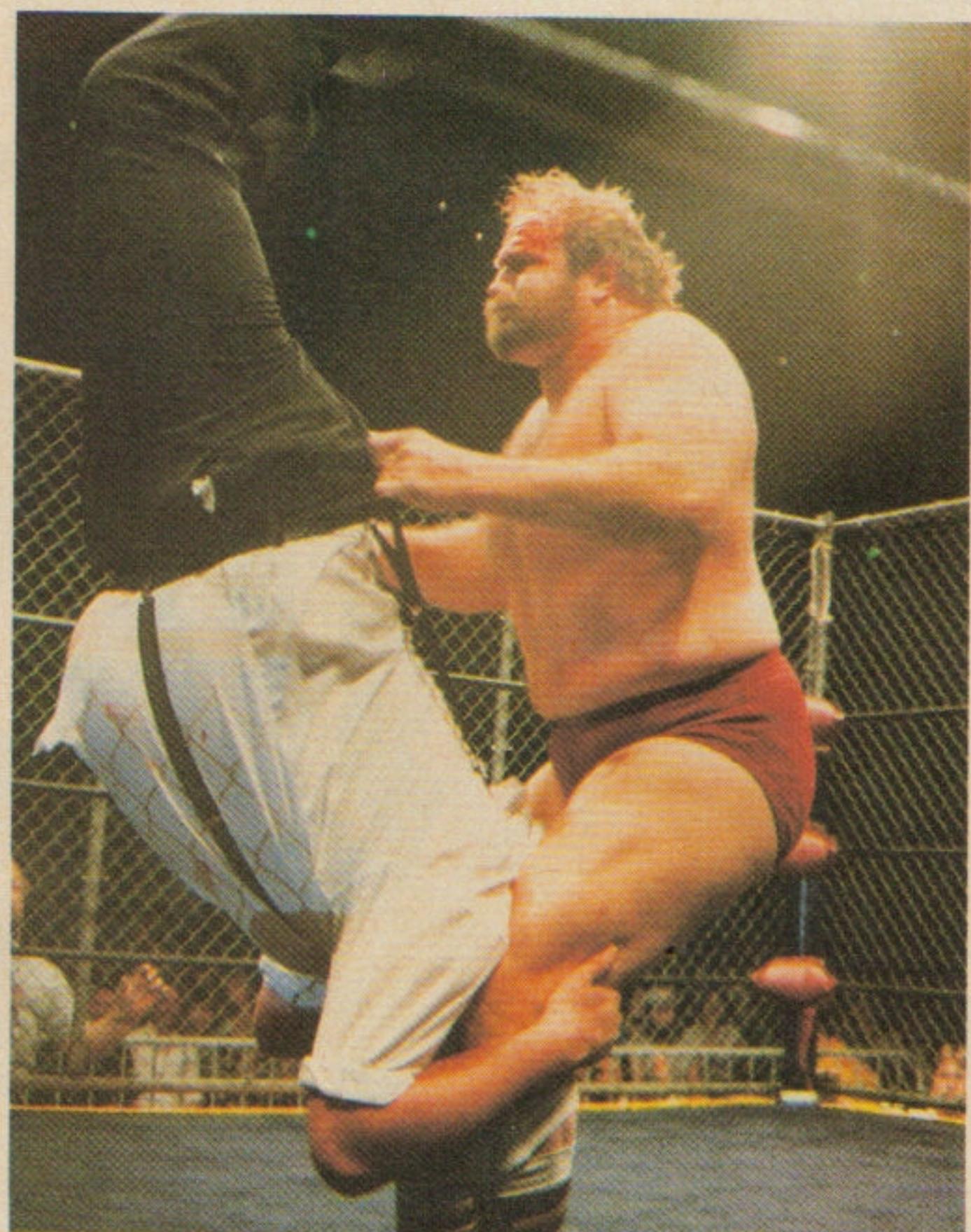
Lex Luger nearly decapitates Spike of The M.O.D. Squad with an elbow (above). The Squad lost to Luger and Tully Blanchard in the second round. Ronnie Garvin sends Bobby Eaton up and over with an emphatic backdrop (right). Ronnie and Jim Garvin won their first-round match, then lost to The Midnight Express in the second round of the tournament.



Road Warrior Animal psychs himself to press Teijho Khan over his head. After the Warriors defeated Khan and Shaska Whatley, they lost a wild quarterfinal match to The Midnight Express by disqualification.



Dusty Rhodes defies the laws of physics as he executes a flying body press on Manny Fernandez (above). Rhodes and Nikita Koloff beat Fernandez and Rick Rude in the quarterfinals. Ole Anderson piledrives Big Bubba Rogers (right) during the first night's singles bout.

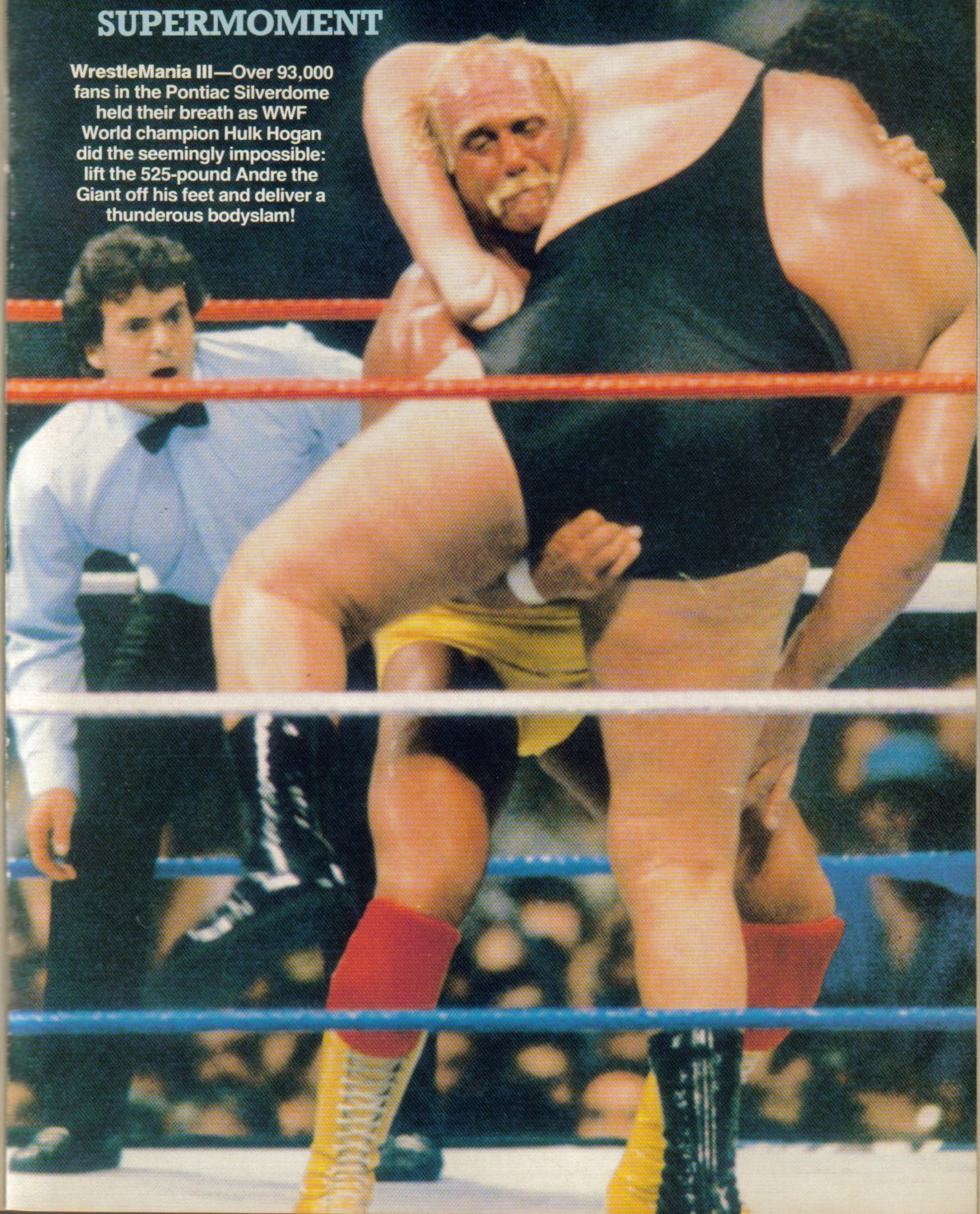


SUPERCARDS

'87

SUPERMOMENT

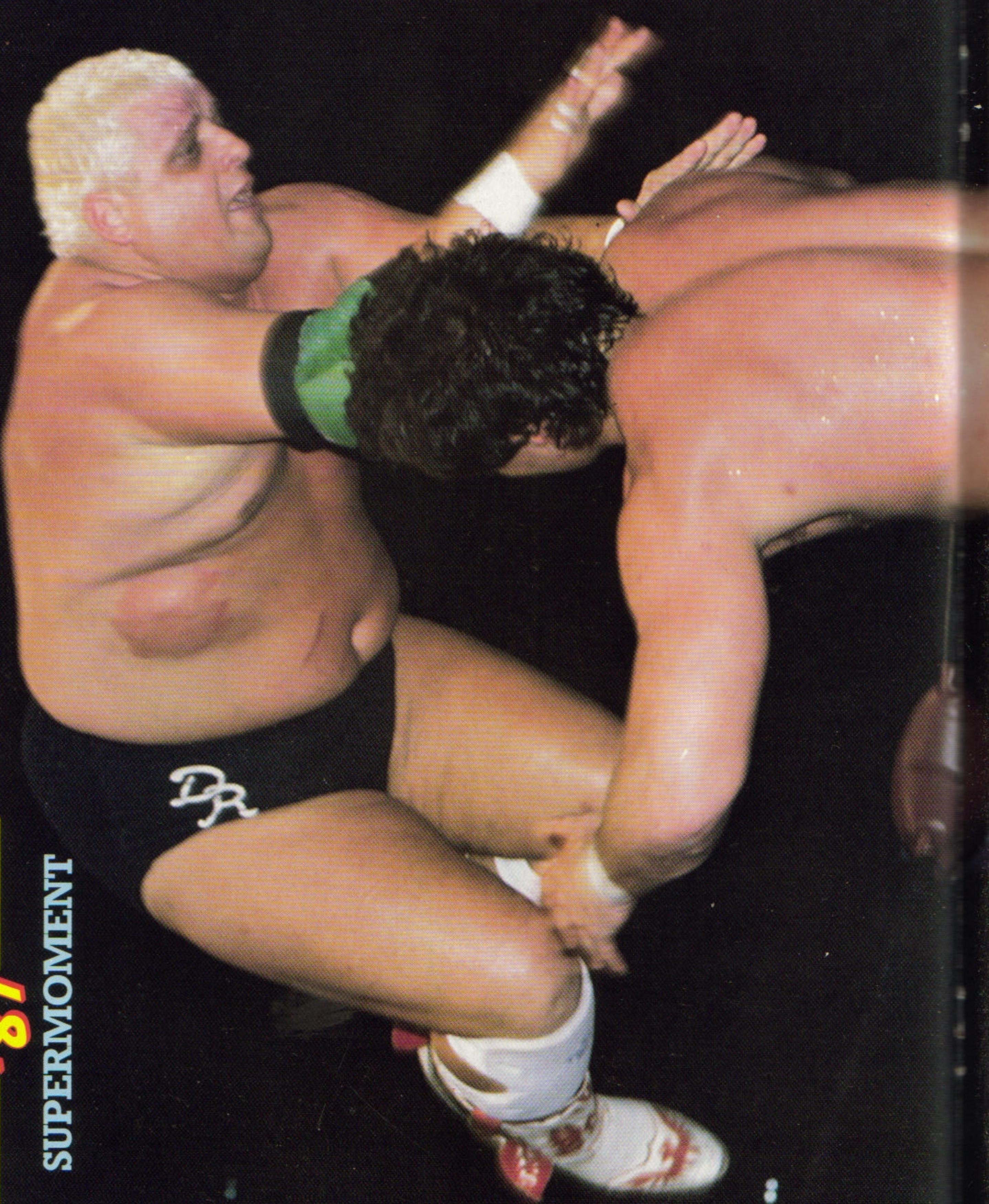
WrestleMania III—Over 93,000 fans in the Pontiac Silverdome held their breath as WWF World champion Hulk Hogan did the seemingly impossible: lift the 525-pound Andre the Giant off his feet and deliver a thunderous bodyslam!



SUPERCARDS

'87

SUPERMOMENT



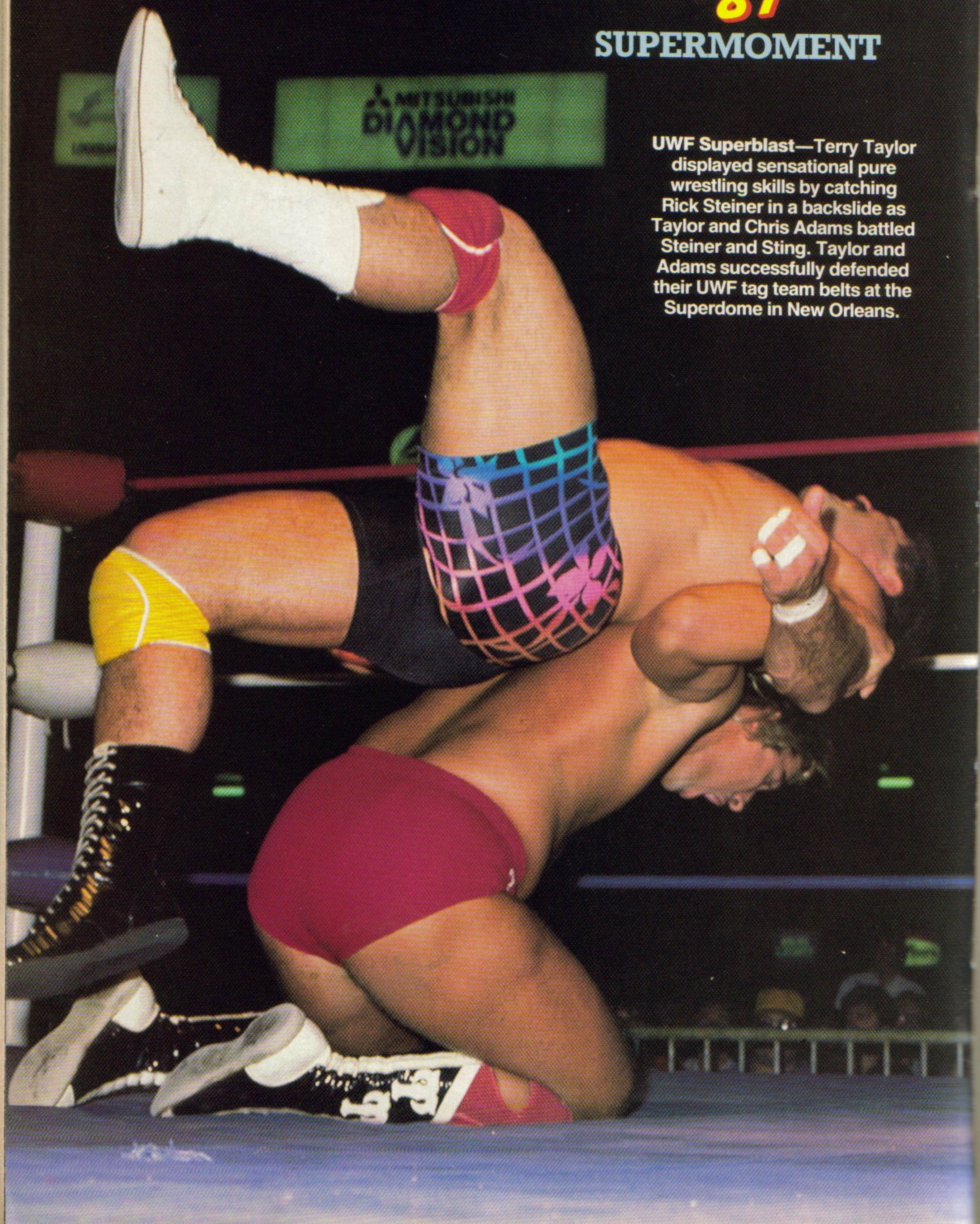
Crockett Cup Tournament—What a final match: Dusty Rhodes and Nikita Koloff vs. Lex Luger and Tully Blanchard! And what a final maneuver: Rhodes coming off the top rope with a flying bodypress as Blanchard is set to piledrive Koloff!

SUPERCARDS '87

SUPERMOMENT

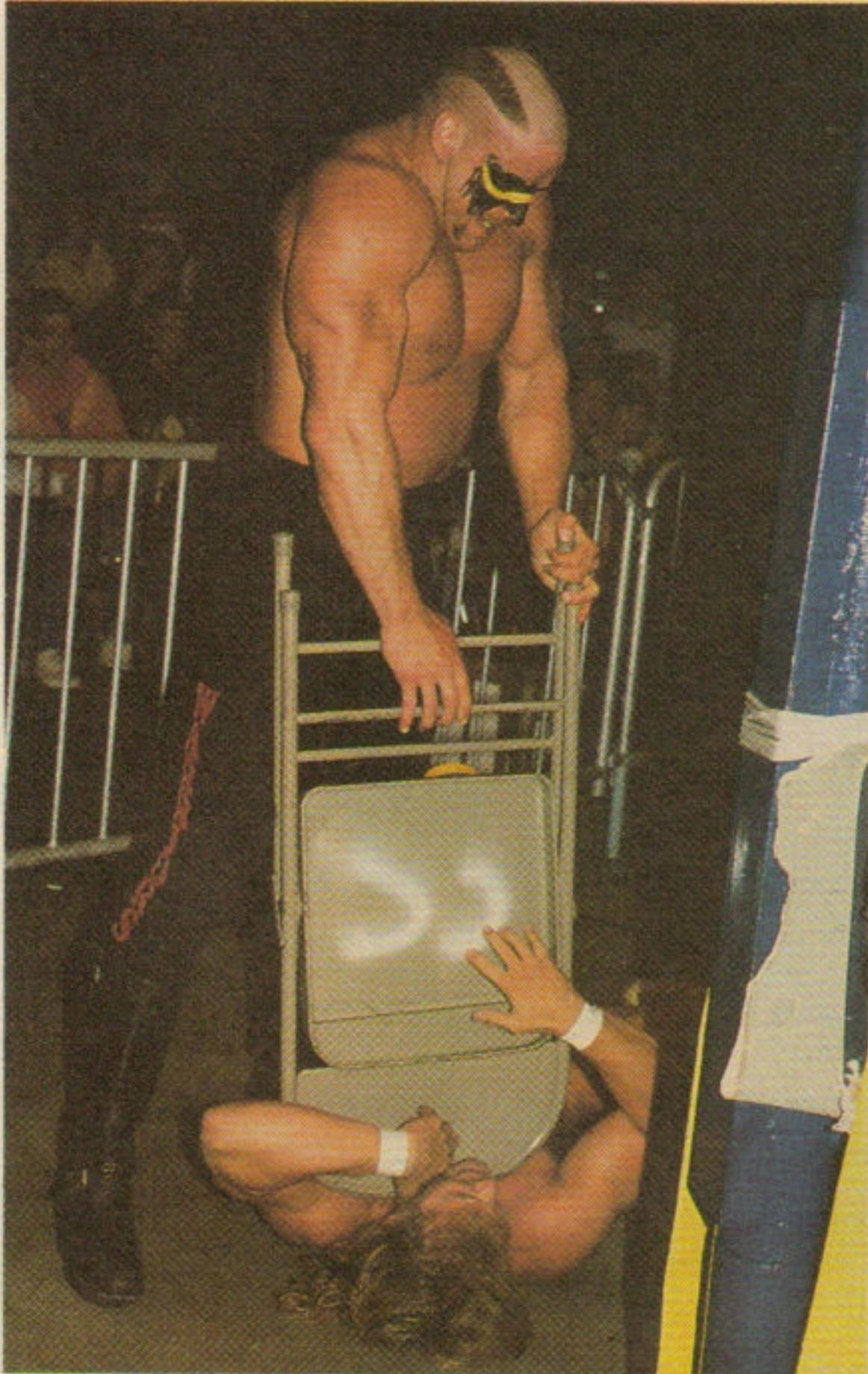
AMERICA'S
DIAMOND VISION

UWF Superblast—Terry Taylor displayed sensational pure wrestling skills by catching Rick Steiner in a backslide as Taylor and Chris Adams battled Steiner and Sting. Taylor and Adams successfully defended their UWF tag team belts at the Superdome in New Orleans.

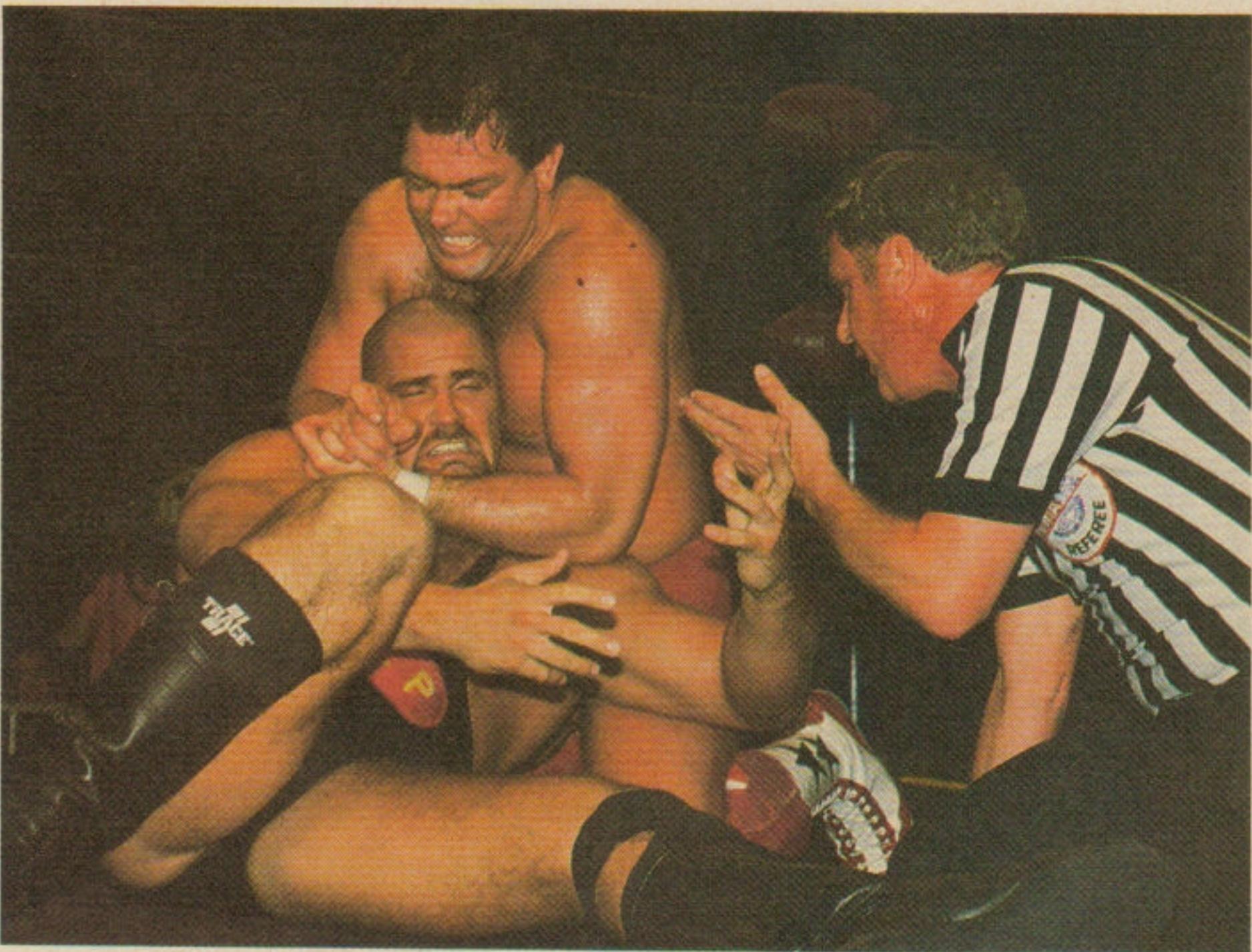
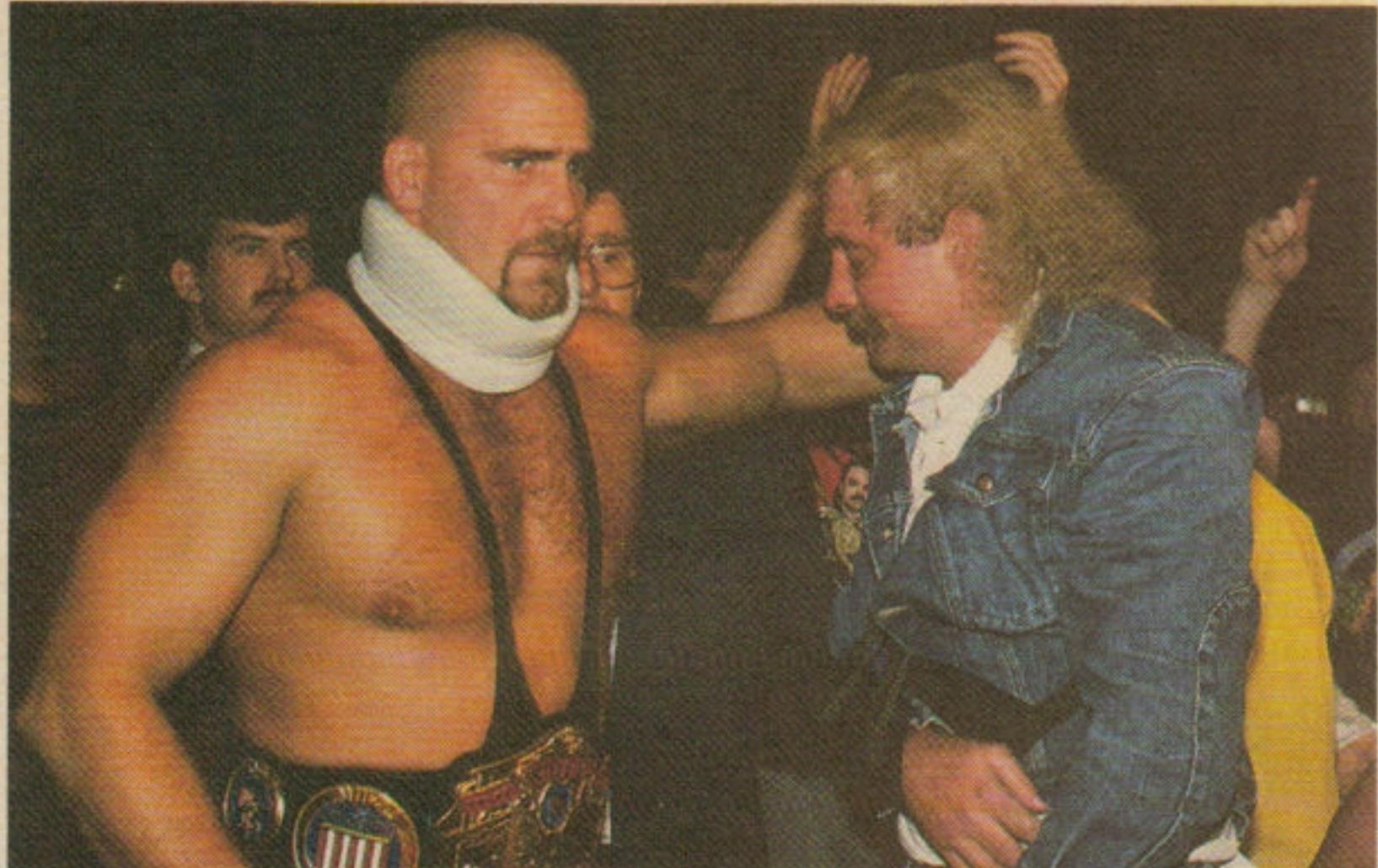


SUPERCARDS '87

CROCKETT CUP



Road Warrior Hawk rams a chair into Stan Lane's throat during the exciting Warriors-Midnight Express quarterfinal bout (left). Eaton can't stop Rhodes' bionic elbow (right); Rhodes and Koloff beat the Express to advance to the finals. In the most touching moment of the tournament, Magnum T.A. has to fight back tears as he moves in to embrace Koloff before the final match (below). Magnum's dramatic appearance at ringside—six months after his car accident—inspired The Superpowers' victory.



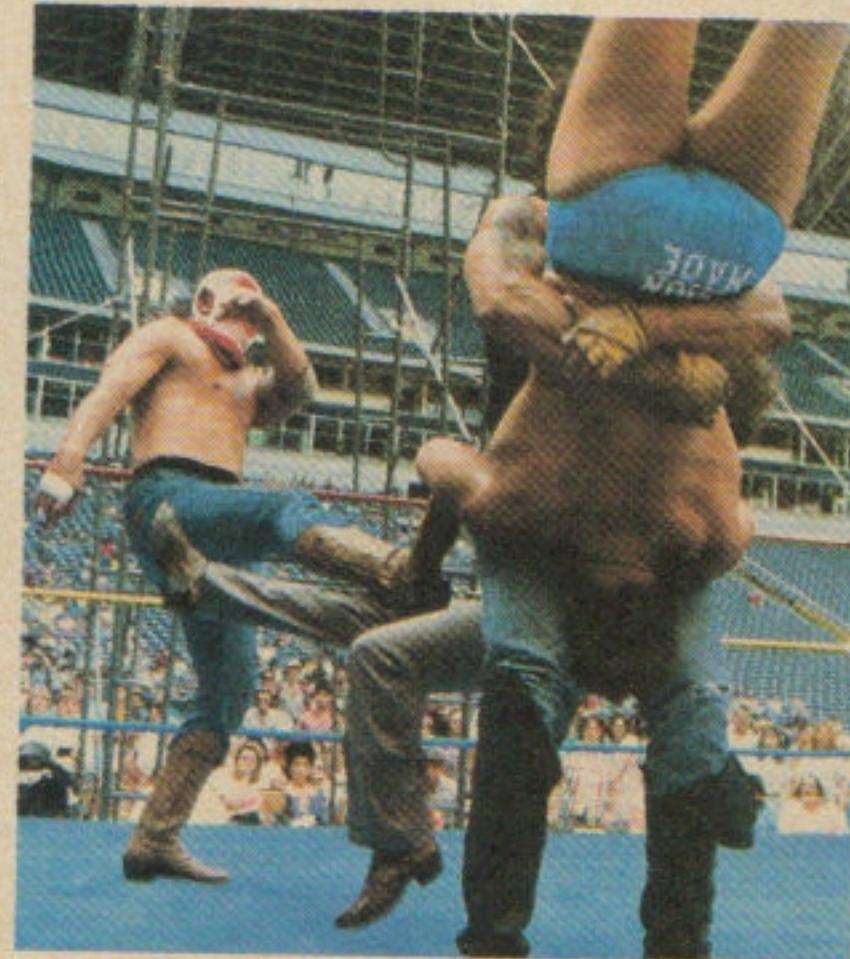
In the final bout, Blanchard applies a chinlock on Koloff (left). Rhodes and Koloff won the Cup and \$1 million. In the second night's NWA World championship match, Barry Windham throws Ric Flair (below), but once again failed to win the coveted belt.

SUPERCARDS '87

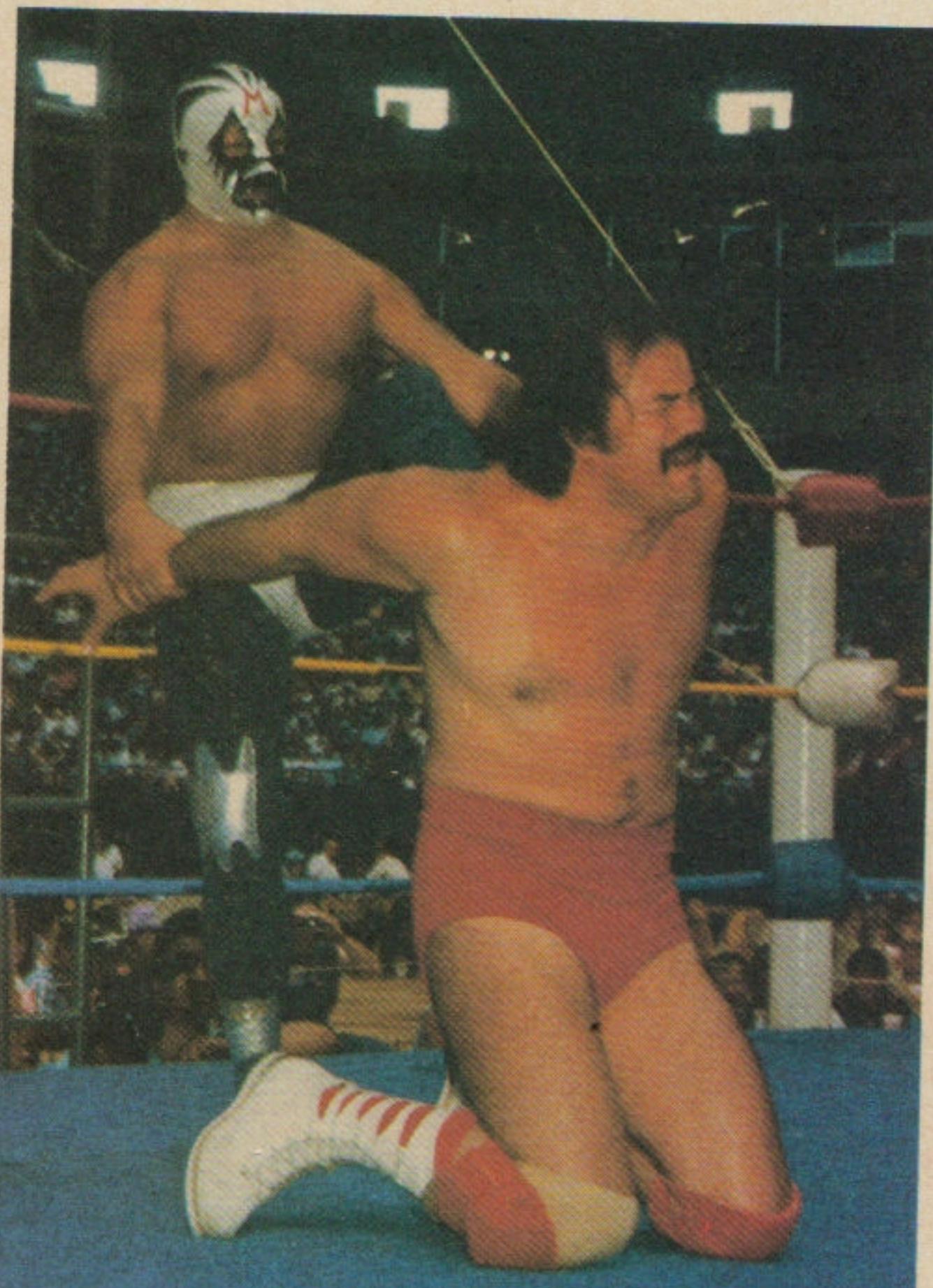
PARADE OF CHAMPIONS



Red River Jack attacks Eli the Eliminator as Abdullah the Butcher and referee Rick Hazzard try to pull him off. Gary Hart looks on (above). Jack kicks manager Jim Holliday into Eli before Eli has a chance to piledrive Spike Huber (right). Huber then fell on top of Eli for the pin. Huber legdrops Eli (below). After the official match, Hart was forced to wrestle Jack.



Sweet Brown Sugar armbars Brian Adias, who has his eye on one of the lumberjacks surrounding the ring (above right). Sugar pinned Adias. Mil Mascaras applies the surfboard against Al Madril (below). The veteran masked man won the match.



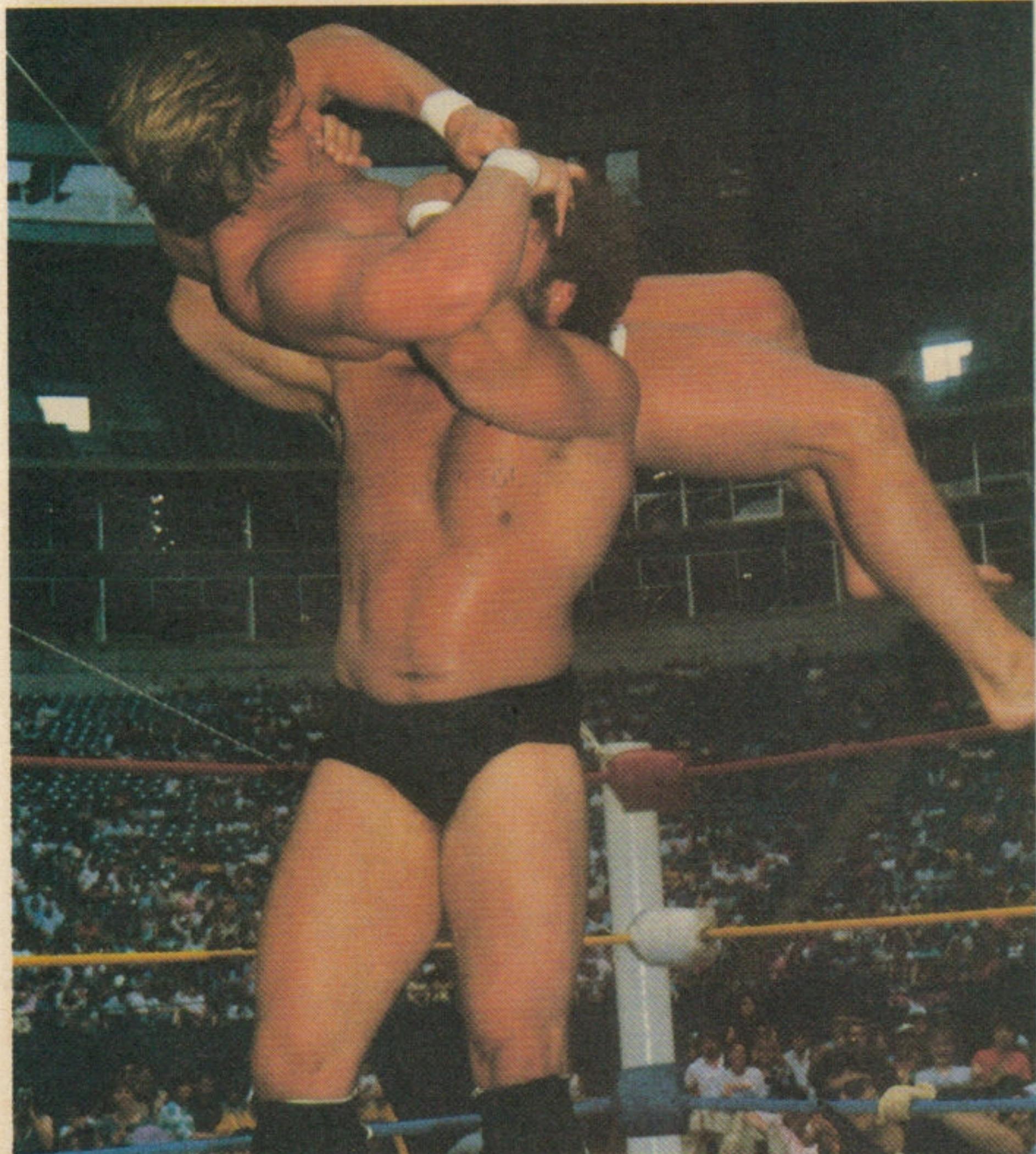
SUPERCARDS

'87

PARADE OF CHAMPIONS



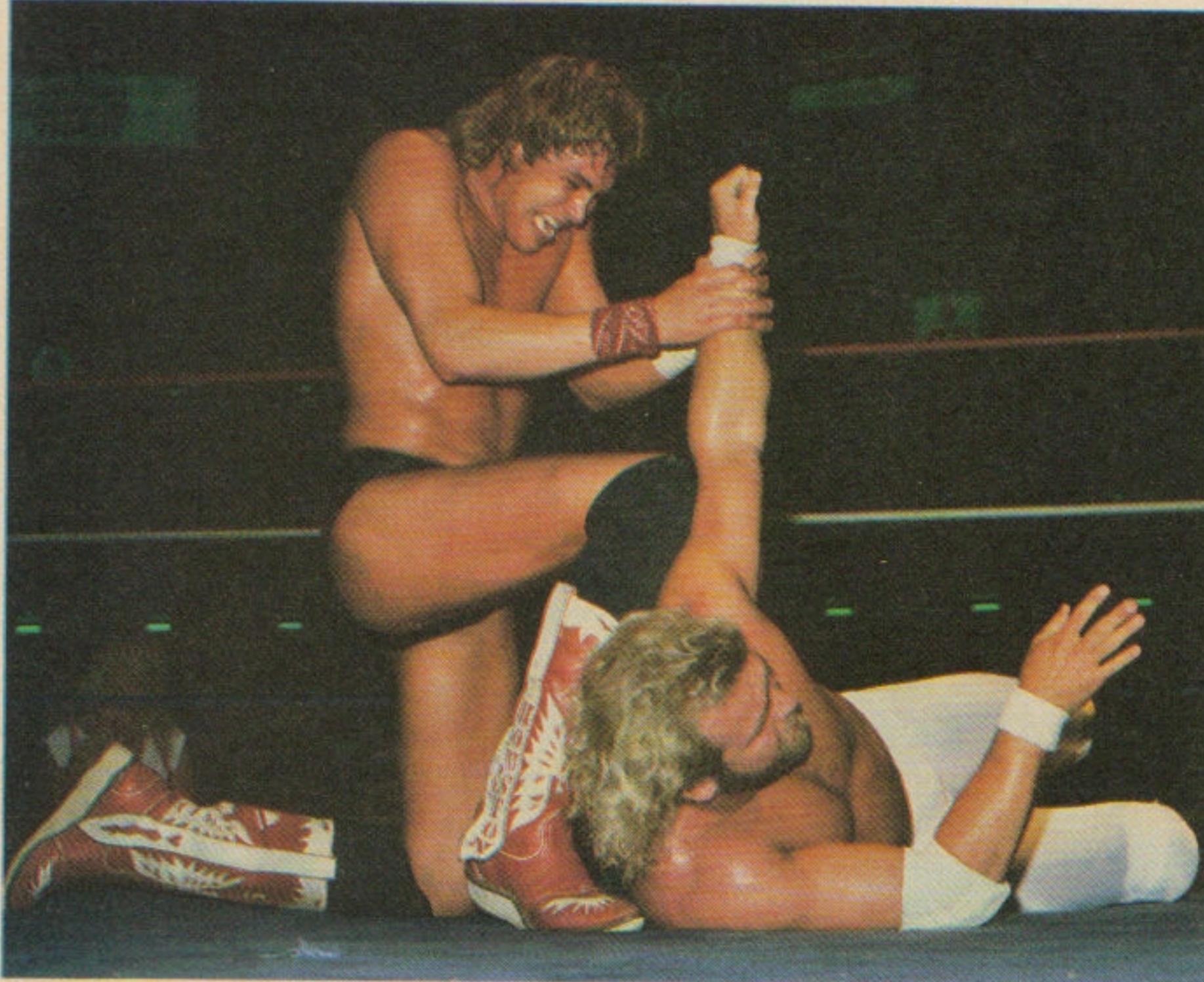
Bruiser Brody slams Jeep Swenson with a chair (left) before going on to pin the African mercenary. The Fantastics and Steve Simpson battle The Rock 'n' Roll RPMs and Eric Embry on the scaffold (above). Embry falls 25 feet to the mat (below).



Nord the Barbarian puts Kevin Von Erich in a backbreaker as Von Erich tries to apply the iron claw (above). Von Erich rolls out of the way of a Nord legdrop (right). Von Erich retained his World Class title when both men were counted out while fighting outside the ring.

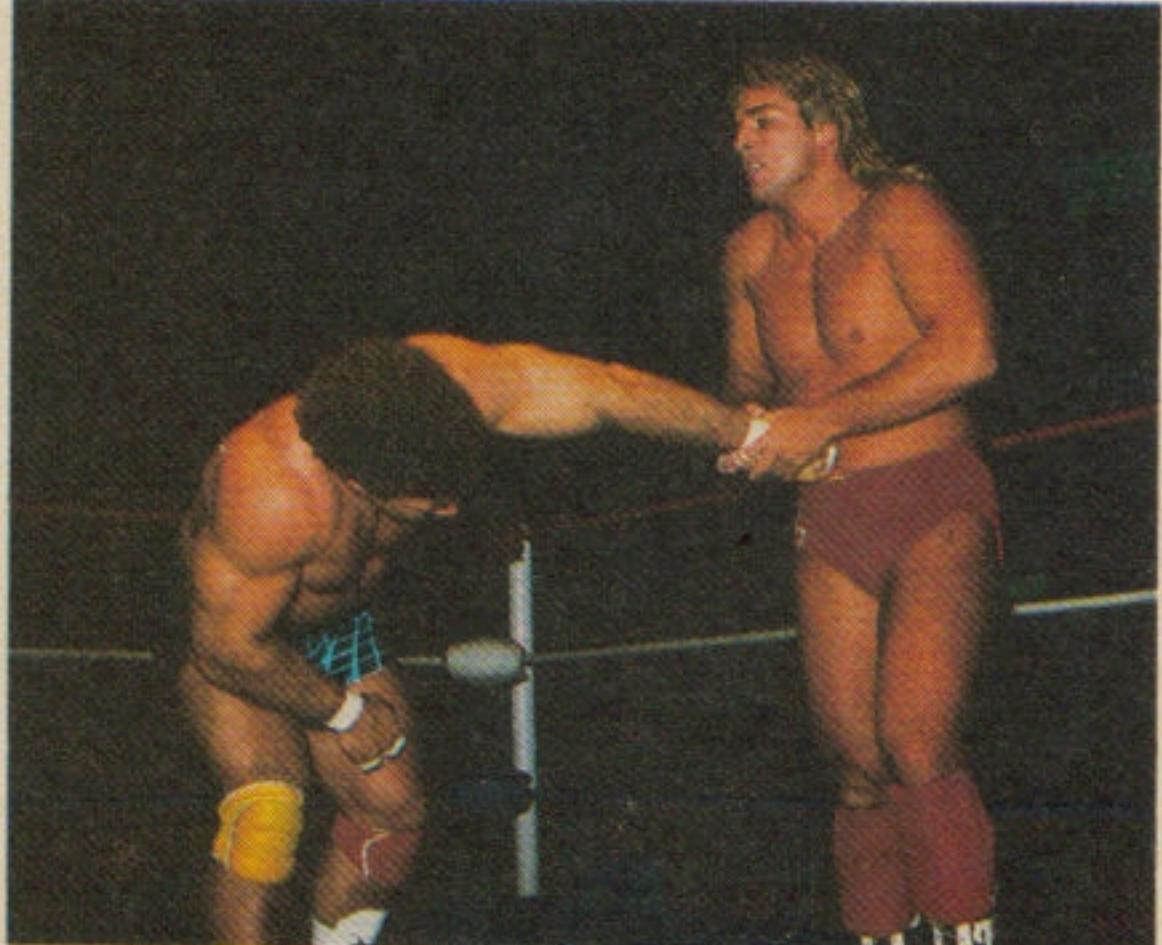
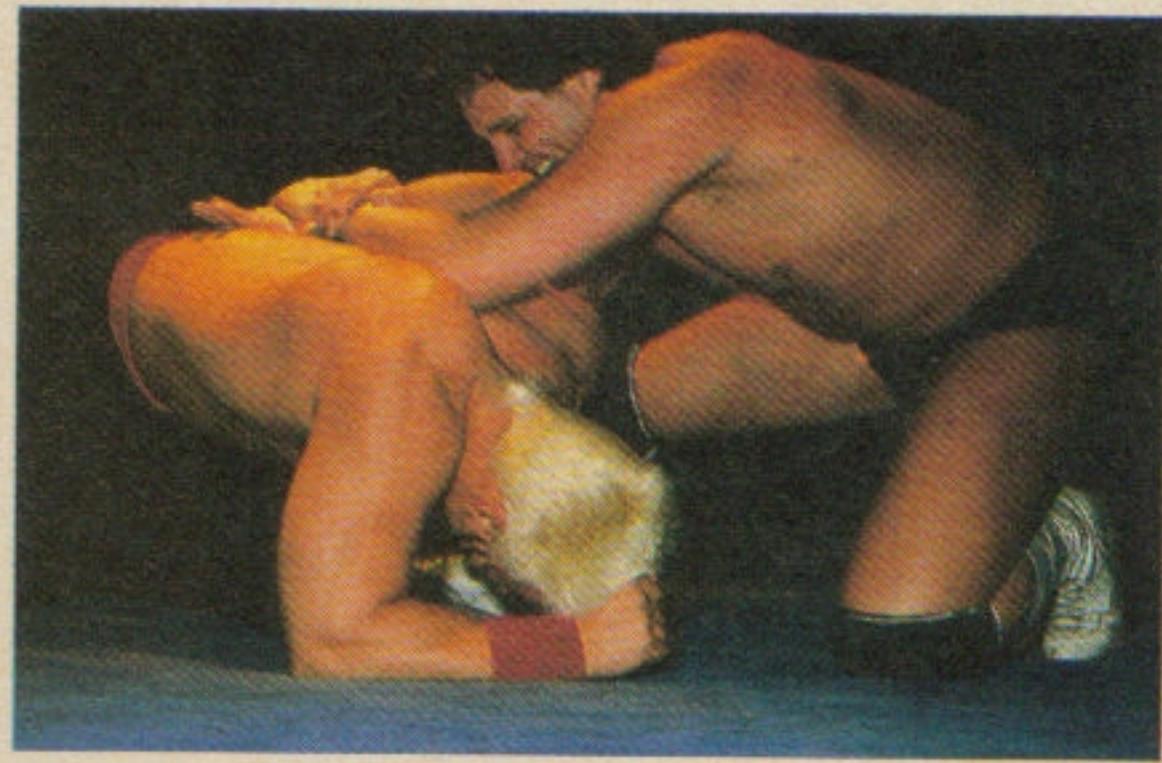
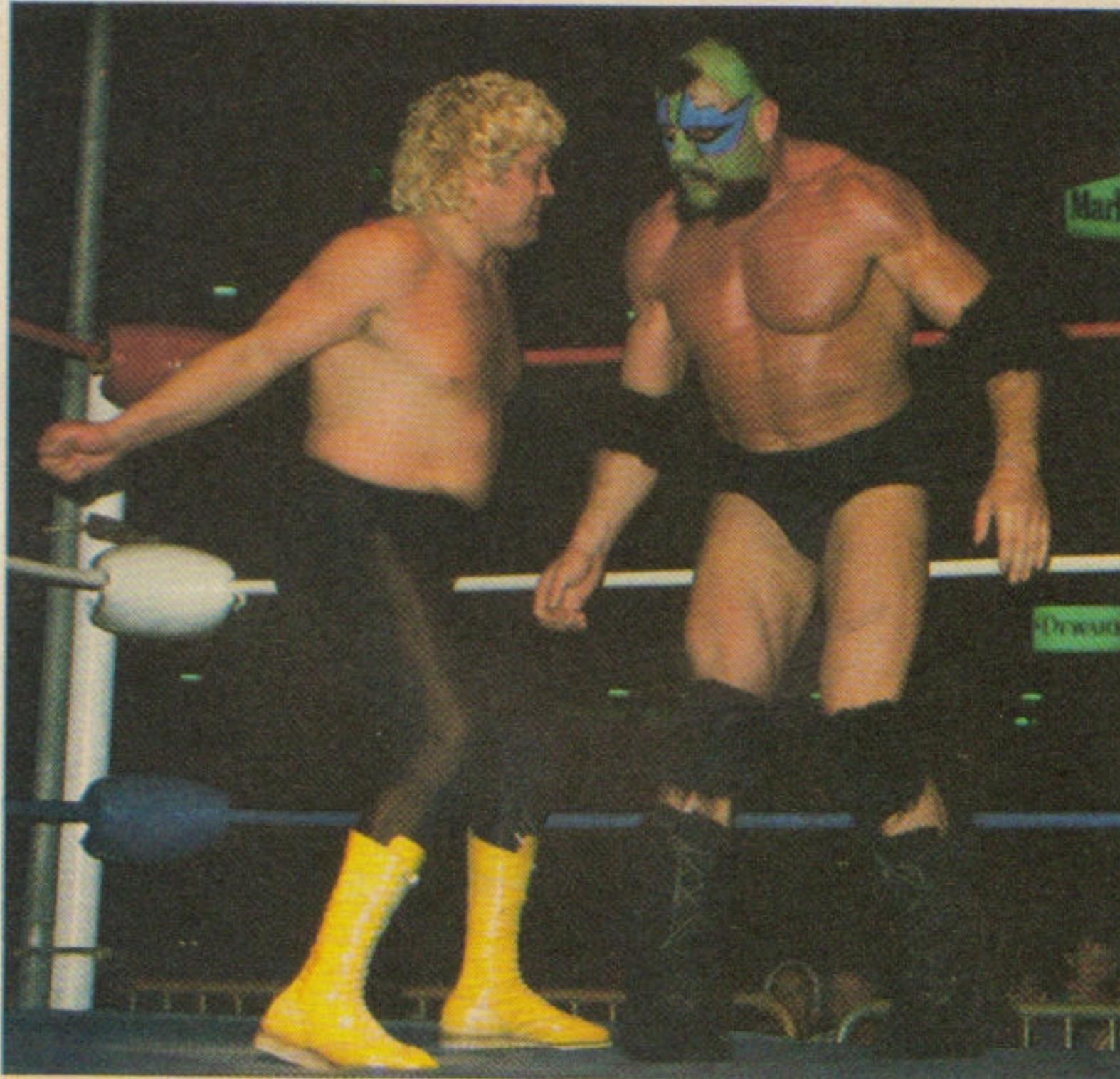
SUPERCARDS '87

UWF SUPERBLAST



Buddy Roberts swings a right hand into Missing Link's midsection (below). Roberts and Michael Hayes defeated Link and Chavo Guerrero in a coal miner's glove match. Chris Adams gains the advantage on Sting (right) and Terry Taylor armbars Rick Steiner (bottom right). Adams and Taylor won the match, but lost the UWF tag team title to Steiner and Sting the next night in Atlanta.

Sam Houston drives his knee into Eddie Gilbert's shoulder (left), but could not take "Hot Stuff's" UWF TV championship. One Man Gang backs Steve Williams into the ropes (above). OMG would later be disqualified, thus retaining the UWF title..

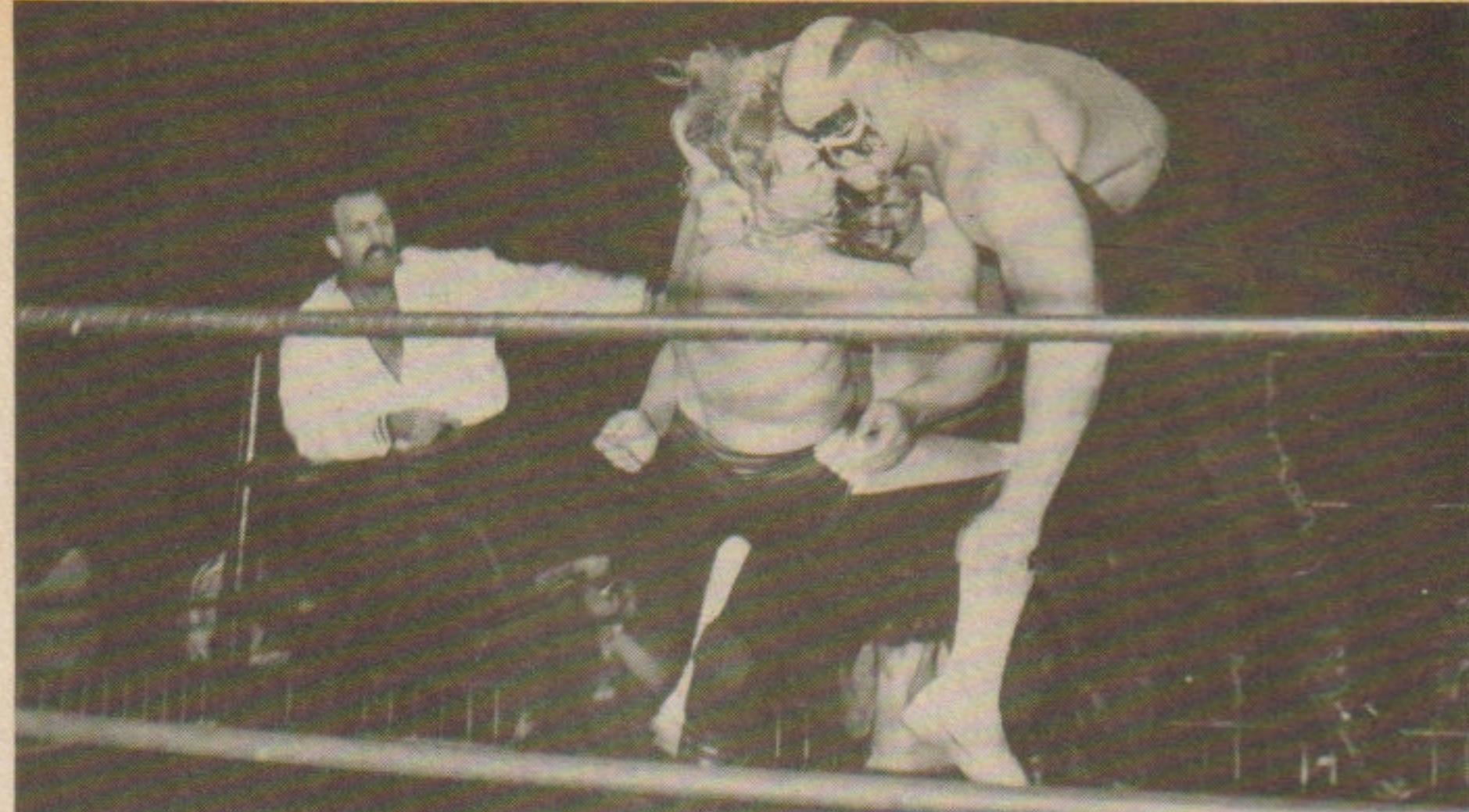


(Continued from page 34)

the semifinals and finals on Saturday . . . The tag team tournament, consisting of 22 matches, was supplemented by two singles matches . . . A videocassette of the event (two hours of tournament highlights) is now available.

There are sporting events that have been contested for decades that have never evolved into traditions. There are other events that are still in their formative years, but are already richly engraved in the American sports embroidery. Such an event is the Jim Crockett Sr. Memorial Cup tag team tournament.

Although only in its second year, the Crockett Cup tournament has become an American sports tradition, attracting media attention from around the world. Some might say that this is due to the incredible quality of competition involved in the Crockett Cup. Oth-



After being disqualified in the quarterfinal round of the Crockett Cup tournament, The Road Warriors, under the direction of Paul Ellering, take out their frustrations on Bobby Eaton. Eaton and Stan Lane had to come back and wrestle in the next round. They lost.

ers say it's the sheer enormity of the event—23 tag team matches over a two-day period. But, if the truth must be known, the secret behind the Crockett Cup's success can be summed up in three words:

One million dollars.

It is, by far, the largest purse in professional wrestling. In fact, it is one of the largest purses in pro sports. For that reason, the Crockett Cup has become the most exciting, most anticipated pure wres-

THE CROCKETT CUP—FULL RESULTS

FIRST ROUND:

- Thunderfoots I & II defeated Bobby Jaggers and Rocky King at 5:52 when Thunderfoot I pinned King.
- Konga the Barbarian and Bill Dundee defeated Mike Rotundo and Tim Horner when Konga pinned Horner at 8:34.
- Shaska Whatley and Teijho Khan defeated Jimmy Valiant and Lazor-Tron by disqualification at the 4:35 mark when Lazor-Tron flipped Whatley over the top rope.
- Jimmy and Ronnie Garvin defeated The Italian Stallion and Ricky Lee Jones when Jimmy pinned Stallion at the 2:27 mark.
- Todd Champion and Denny Brown defeated Bill and Randy Mulkey at 4:01 when Brown backdropped and pinned Randy.
- Steve Keirn and George South battled Nelson Royal and Mike Graham to a 20-minute draw, thus eliminating both teams from the tournament.
- Bob and Brad Armstrong won by disqualification over Ivan Koloff and Vladimir Petrov after 4:11 when Petrov hit Brad with his chain.
- The M.O.D. Squad defeated Wahoo McDaniel and Baron Von Raschke as Spike pinned Von Raschke at the 4:33 mark.

[Note: Eight teams—Dusty Rhodes and Nikita Koloff, Rick Rude and Manny Fernandez, The Road Warriors, The Midnight Express, Shohei Baba and Isao Takagi, The Rock 'n' Roll Express, Arn Anderson and Kevin Sullivan, and Tully Blanchard and Lex Luger—received byes into the second round.]

SECOND ROUND:

- Ric Rude and Manny Fernandez beat Thunderfoots I & II when Rude pinned Thunderfoot II at the 4:35 mark via the DDT.
- Dusty Rhodes and Nikita Koloff defeated Konga the Barbarian and Bill Dundee when Nikita sickled Dundee and pinned him at 7:47.
- The Road Warriors defeated Shaska Whatley and Teijho Khan when Hawk powerslammed Khan and pinned him at 3:57.
- The Midnight Express defeated Jimmy and Ronnie Garvin at the 6:23 mark when Ronnie was counted out following a slam on the back by Jim Comette's tennis racket.
- Shohei Baba and Isao Takagi defeated Todd Champion and Denny Brown at 6:01 when Baba pinned Champion.

- Bob and Brad Armstrong defeated Arn Anderson and Kevin Sullivan when Brad pinned Sullivan at the 5:28 mark.
- Tully Blanchard and Lex Luger defeated The M.O.D. Squad when Blanchard pinned Basher at 6:33.

[Note: The Rock 'n' Roll Express dropped out of the tournament due to Rick Morton's eye injury. Since they were to receive a bye into the second round, and the match between their would-be opponents Royal/Graham and Keirn/South ended in a draw, this match was eliminated from the bracket. Had there been a winner in that first round match, the winning team would have advanced directly to the quarterfinals.]

THE QUARTERFINALS:

- Tully Blanchard and Lex Luger defeated Bob and Brad Armstrong when Blanchard pinned Bob at the 16:44 mark.
- The Midnight Express defeated The Road Warriors at 11:29 when the Warriors were disqualified for using Jim Comette's tennis racket in the ring.
- Dusty Rhodes and Nikita Koloff defeated Manny Fernandez and Rick Rude when Rhodes reversed a Fernandez body press for the pin at 9:42.

[Note: Baba/Takagi received a bye through the quarterfinal round, as they were to have met the winner of the eliminated match.]

THE SEMI-FINALS:

- Tully Blanchard and Lex Luger defeated Shohei Baba and Isao Takagi when Luger pinned Takagi at the 8:40 mark.
- Dusty Rhodes and Nikita Koloff defeated The Midnight Express when Nikita sickled Eaton at 11:13.

FINAL MATCH:

- Dusty Rhodes and Nikita Koloff defeated Tully Blanchard and Lex Luger at 17:31 when Rhodes delivered a flying body press to Blanchard, who was preparing to piledrive Koloff.

ADDITIONAL SINGLES MATCHES:

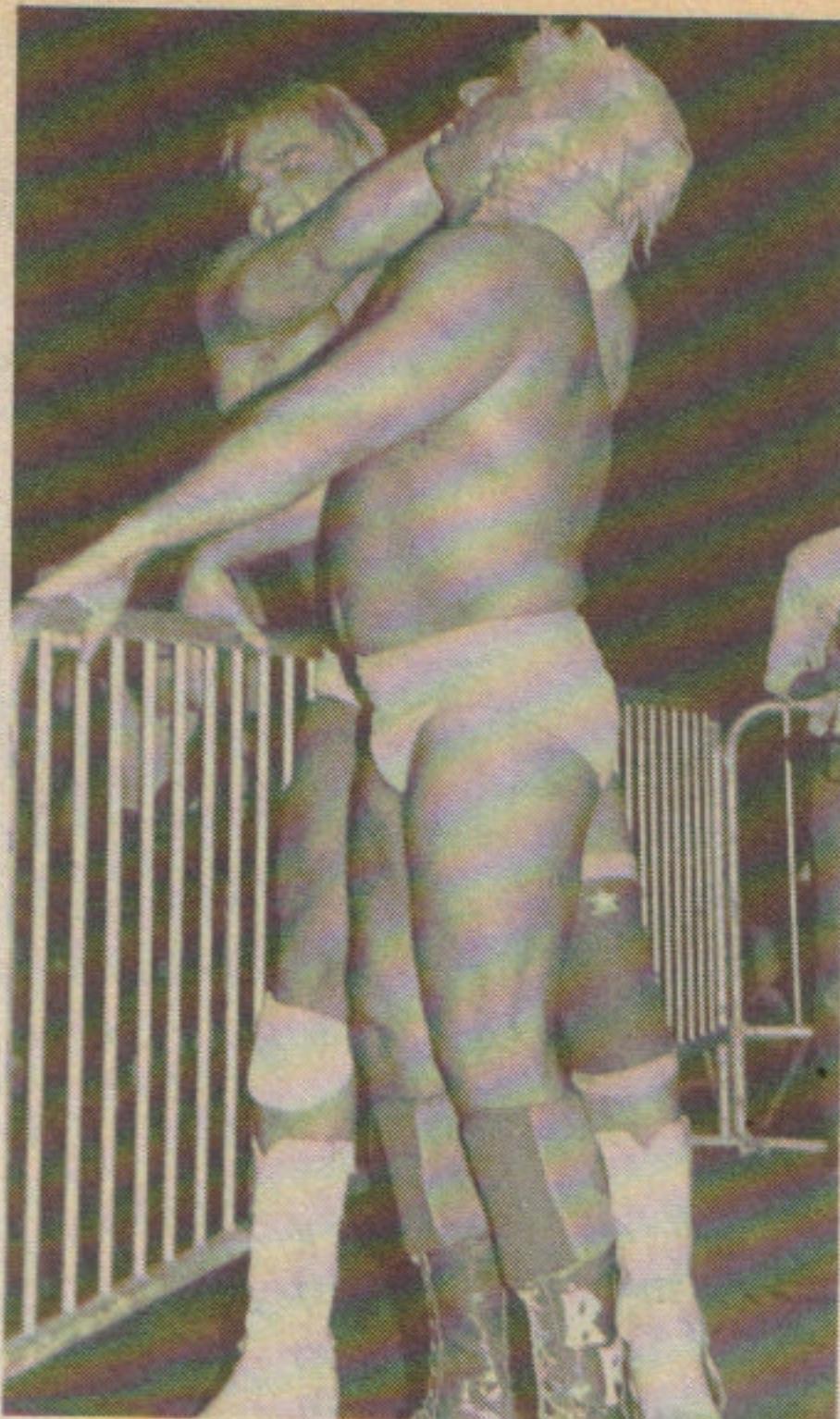
- Ole Anderson defeated Big Bubba Rogers in a steel cage match when Bubba was unable to continue at the 6:56 mark.
- Ric Flair pinned Barry Windham at 26:12 to retain his NWA World heavyweight title.

ting event in the world.

There is no room for error. The wrestlers know this, and the result is a series of outstanding and memorable matches. Crockett Cup '87 had more than its share of great moments: The new Midnight Express proved its potency with a victory over Ronnie and Jim Garvin; Brad and Bob Armstrong lost to Tully Blanchard and Lex Luger in what was one of the best matches of any SuperCard; The Midnight Express defeated The Road Warriors by disqualification in an all-out brawl. The championship match, won by Dusty Rhodes and Nikita Koloff over Blanchard and Luger, exceeded everyone's expectations.

But perhaps the most memorable moment of the tournament occurred prior to the championship match, when the recovering Magnum T.A. walked slowly to ringside and greeted Rhodes and Koloff (see accompanying story on page 34). The emotional response of the crowd was overwhelming, and undoubtedly helped spur The Superpowers to victory.

Unfortunately, only one of the two singles matches lived up to its expectations. Ole Anderson defeated Bubba Rogers in a disap-



Ric Flair had some anxious moments in his NWA World title defense against a determined challenger, Barry Windham.

pointing cage match on Friday night, but NWA World champion Ric Flair battled Barry Windham in an incredible 30-minute war the following evening.

Everything wasn't merry in Maryland, however. The Crockett Cup is still in its developmental stages, and certain aspects have not been ironed out. Last year, the

entire tournament was held in one day with the opening rounds in the afternoon and the last two rounds at night. This year's tournament was held on two consecutive nights, but the first night's card paled drastically by comparison to the second night's card.

There was also the matter of ticket prices. Tickets were sold in two-session strips, meaning that fans who wanted to attend only one night would have to shell out the \$45 ringside and \$35 upper concourse price for both evenings. A few days before the show, promoters realized that neither session would be a sellout and started selling tickets separately. But by that time, it was too late for people who had already purchased tickets.

The below-sellout crowds of 12,000 for Friday night and 13,000 for Saturday night (14,000 is a sell-out at The Baltimore Arena) were also slightly disappointing, especially when compared to the huge crowd drawn at WrestleMania III.

There was also the question of the seedings. Last year, the NWA asked *Pro Wrestling Illustrated* to seed the top eight teams and we proudly agreed to do so. This year, however, the NWA stipulated to *PWI* that World tag team

THE SUPERCARDS '87 BOOK OF LISTS

Far and away the two most memorable moments of SuperCards '87:

1. Hulk Hogan pins Andre the Giant at WrestleMania III and ends Andre's career-long undefeated streak
2. Magnum T.A. walks to the ring to greet the crowd before the final bout of the Crockett Cup tournament and embraces both Dusty Rhodes and Nikita Koloff
- ... and eight more to complete our Top 10:
3. Rick Steamboat, with George "The Animal" Steele at his side, uses his remaining strength to display his newly won WWF Intercontinental title belt at WrestleMania III
4. Dusty Rhodes executes a flying bodypress against Tully Blanchard—who was preparing to piledrive Nikita Koloff—to win the final match of the Crockett Cup tournament
5. Glenn Goda sings a spine-chilling version of "Heaven Needed A Champion" (with extra lyrics dedicated to Mike Von Erich), and a new song, "A Poet Named Michael," at the David Von Erich Memorial Parade of Champions
6. Steve Williams bodyslams 468-pound One Man Gang during their UWF heavyweight title match at the UWF's Superblast at the Superdome
7. King Kong Bundy bodyslams—then elbowsmashes—midget wrestler Little Beaver at WrestleMania III
8. Jim Cornette attempts to throw fire at Road Warrior Animal—

and misses!—during The Midnight Express' quarterfinal round victory over the Warriors at the Crockett Cup tournament

9. Brutus Beefcake shaves (although somewhat ineffectively) the head of Adrian Adonis following Roddy Piper's victory over "The Adorable One" in his retirement match
10. The Mulkeys receive the biggest ovation of the entire first night of the Crockett Cup tournament as they enter the ring only days after their first-ever victory on WTBS' *World Championship Wrestling*

Five rhetorical questions about SuperCards '87:

1. What did WrestleMania III look like to the fans sitting in the back rows of the Silverdome?
2. Why weren't defending Crockett Cup champions The Road Warriors seeded number one in this year's tournament?
3. Why in the world would the World Class area hold a six-woman mud match after their credibility was hurt so much by last year's Missy Hyatt-Sunshine mud match?
4. Why would the UWF, knowing how the World Class' credibility was hurt last year, sanction a four-woman catfight between Missy Hyatt, Sunshine, Nickla Roberts, and Dark Journey?
5. Why didn't the AWA hold WrestleRock '87 after such a successful WrestleRock '86?

champions Rick Rude and Manny Fernandez would be the top seed. Unwilling to abide by this stipulation, we turned down the NWA's request.

By any standards, however, the Crockett Cup was a success and should only improve in the coming years. Perhaps the NWA should choose one permanent site for the tournament. The new 22,000-seat arena in Charlotte, North Carolina, scheduled to open in 1988, might be a good choice. And the two-night idea is fine, but fans should be able to decide for themselves if they want to attend both cards.

The future is looking up for the Crockett Cup. The NWA is to be commended, once again, for sticking to the sport of wrestling, not the spectacle of celebrities, in promoting its big event. The Crockett Cup is here to stay, a welcome addition to the sport.

THE FOURTH ANNUAL DAVID VON ERICH MEMORIAL PARADE OF CHAMPIONS took place on May 3, 1987 . . . As with the three previous Parade Of Champions cards, the event was held in Texas Stadium in Irving, Texas . . . The card was comprised of 10 matches.

The six most action-packed matches of SuperCards '87:

1. The Midnight Express vs. The Road Warriors at The Crockett Cup
2. Rick Steamboat vs. Randy Savage at WrestleMania III
3. Bob & Brad Armstrong vs. Tully Blanchard and Lex Luger at The Crockett Cup
4. Ric Flair vs. Barry Windham bonus singles bout for the NWA World title at The Crockett Cup.
5. Eddie Gilbert vs. Sam Houston at the Superblast at the Superdome.
6. The RPMs and Eric Embry vs. The Fantastics and Steve Simpson at Texas Stadium's Parade of Champions.

Eleven wrestlers who have competed in all three WrestleManias:

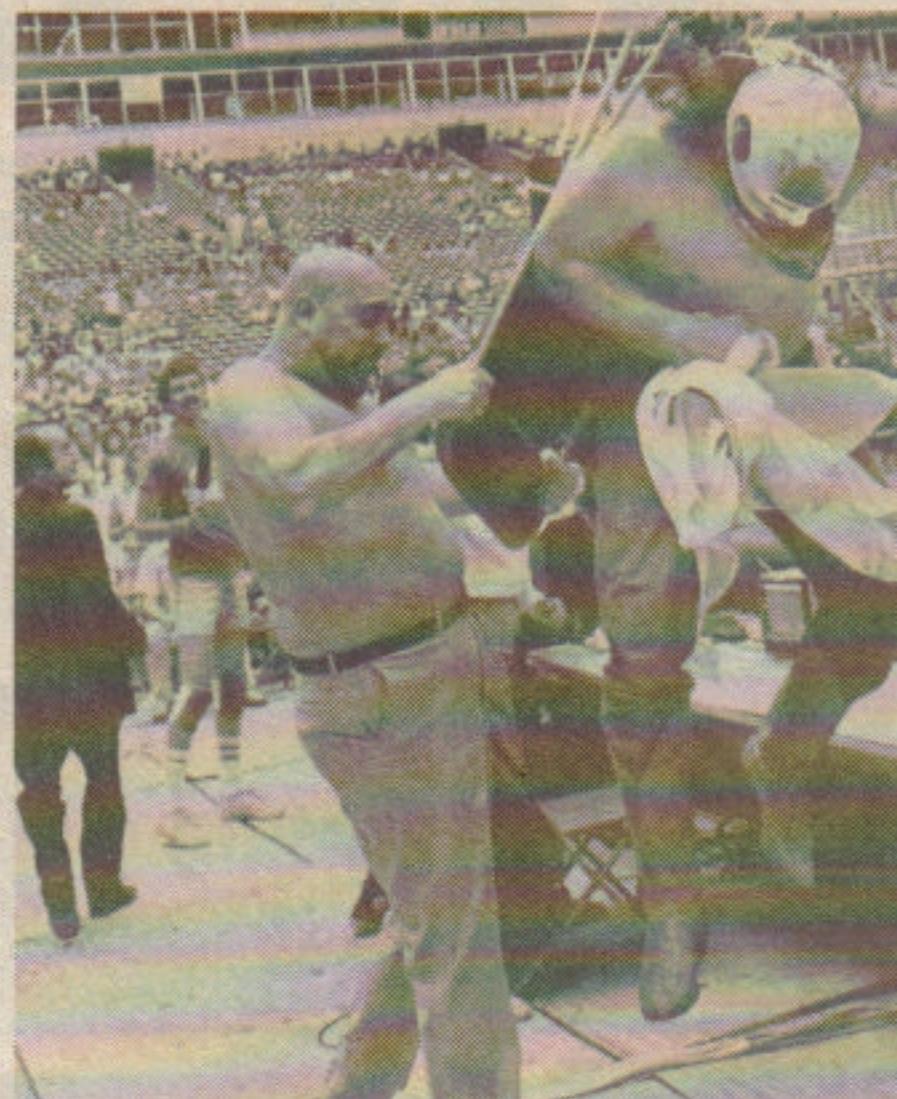
1. Andre the Giant
2. Brutus Beefcake
3. King Kong Bundy
4. Hulk Hogan
5. Roddy Piper
6. Iron Sheik
7. Junkyard Dog
8. Tito Santana
9. Rick Steamboat
10. Greg Valentine
11. Nikolai Volkoff

One man who was involved in the first two WrestleManias who, thankfully, was not involved in the third:

1. Mr. T

PARADE OF CHAMPIONS—FULL RESULTS

- Matt Borne and Scott Casey defeated Black Bart and Jack Victory as Borne pinned Bart.
- Cousin Jr. defeated The Grappler following a mulekick and a splash off the ropes.
- Steve Doll pinned Killer Brooks.
- Red River Jack and Spike Huber defeated Abdullah the Butcher and Eli the Eliminator as Huber pinned Eli; as a result of the decision, Hart had to wrestle Red River Jack for five minutes—after about two minutes, Abdullah and Eli pulled Hart out of the ring and carried him back to the dressing room.
- Mil Mascaras pinned Al Madril following a flying bodypress.
- Sweet Brown Sugar defeated Brian Adias in a lumberjack match.
- Kevin Von Erich retained his World Class heavyweight title against Nord the Barbarian as both men were counted out of the ring.
- The Fantastics and Steve Simpson defeated The RPMs and Eric Embry in a scaffold match as Embry was the first to fall off the scaffold to the mat.
- Bruiser Brody pinned Mr. Jeep Swenson in a bloody brawl.
- Candi Divine won a six-woman mud match; Percy Pringle was special referee.



Gary Hart tries to catch Red River Jack by surprise before their five-minute "match." Hart would later have to be helped out of the ring.

THE UWF SUPERBLAST AT THE SUPERDOME took place on April 11, 1987 . . . All matches took place in The Superdome in New Orleans . . . The card was comprised of 11 matches.

This year's Parade Of Champions was not a happy event. It couldn't be. Only two weeks earlier, Mike Von Erich took his own life with an overdose of the tranquilizer Placidyl. Four days later, his body was discovered near Lake Lewisville, Texas.

Texas mourned. Friends, family, and fans asked why. World Class champion Kevin Von Erich took a 10-day vacation from the ring to

(Continued on page 56)

And why didn't these guys wrestle at WrestleMania III?

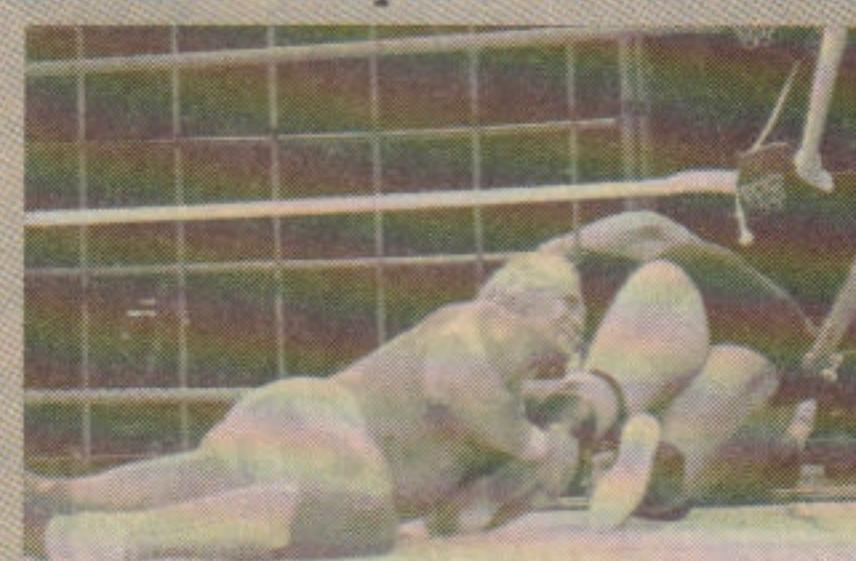
1. Paul Orndorff
2. Bruno Sammartino

Three wrestlers who were rated in the Pro Wrestling Illustrated Top 10 this past year who did not compete in any of the Supercards '87:

1. Stan Hansen
2. Magnum T.A.
3. Paul Orndorff

Fourteen tag team combinations who were rated in the Pro Wrestling Illustrated Top 10 Tag Team rankings this past year who did not compete—as these teams—in any of the Supercards '87:

1. The Rock 'n' Roll Express
2. Playboy Buddy Rose & Doug Somers
3. The Sheepherders
4. Eddie Gilbert & Sting
5. The Fabulous Ones
6. The Midnight Express (Condrey & Eaton)
7. Buzz Sawyer & Matt Borne
8. Ivan Koloff & Krusher Khrushchev
9. Ole & Arn Anderson
10. John Tatum & Jack Victory
11. Hacksaw Duggan & Terry Taylor
12. Barry Windham & Ronnie Garvin
13. Brian Adias & Al Madril
14. Steve Williams & Ted DiBiase

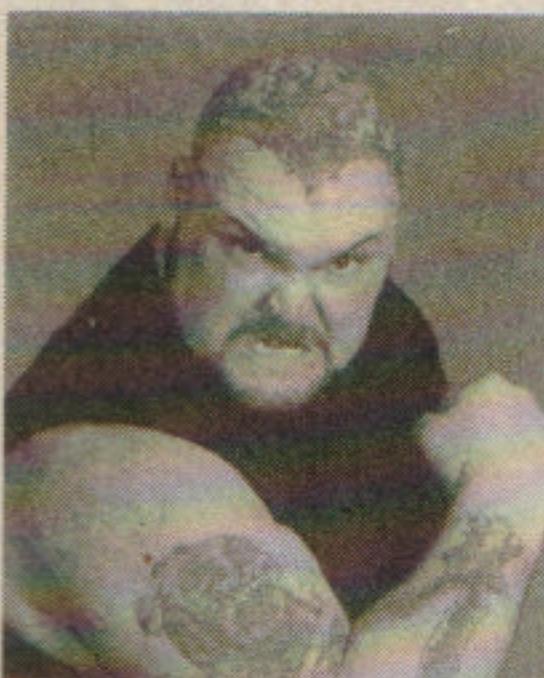


WRESTLEMANIA 2: HOGAN VS. BUNDY

Scouting Report.

A NO-HOLDS-BARRED LOOK AT WRESTLING'S TOP STARS

Every other month, *Pro Wrestling Illustrated Scouting Reports* will examine the relative strengths and weaknesses of wrestling's top stars. There will be no punches pulled as the sport's athletes undergo the harshest scrutiny anywhere in the wrestling world



BAM BAM BIGELOW

HOME TOWN: Mt. Laurel, NJ

HEIGHT: 6'3"

WEIGHT: 390

YEARS AS PRO: 1

RATING: No. 4 in Mid-Southern

STRENGTHS:

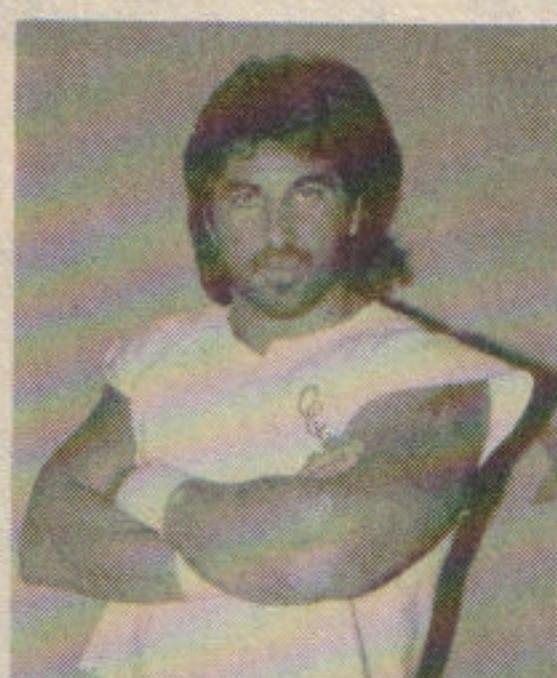
- Nuclear splash. Bigelow's dive off the top rope is an incredibly effective finishing move.
- Astounding agility. How many 390-pound men can deliver a flying dropkick or flying bodypress?
- Fearless and fearsome. A former bounty hunter; nothing scares this monster.

WEAKNESSES:

- Inability to establish roots. In one year, Bigelow has changed areas three times and parted with manager Larry Sharpe.
- Disregard for rules. Will do anything to injure an opponent; is often out of control, resulting in disqualification.
- Not as good as he thinks he is. His huge ego makes him unwilling to learn.

OTHER COMMENTS: First runner-up for Rookie of the Year in 1986 . . . Became Crusher Yurkof in World Class area after adopting Soviet ideology . . . Former Mid-Southern and World Class TV champion . . . Split with manager Larry Sharpe upon return to Mid-Southern area.

OUTLOOK FOR '87: With his immense size and remarkable agility, Bigelow has the potential to become one of the great stars of wrestling. But he needs direction. If Bigelow can establish himself in one area, he'll achieve stardom and a major title in 1987.



WENDELL COOLEY

HOME TOWN: Milton, FL

HEIGHT: 6'1"

WEIGHT: 220

YEARS AS PRO: 6

RATING: Continental champion; No. 10 in NWA

STRENGTHS:

- Smoothness. Cooley can mix combinations of maneuvers, moving easily from one to the next.
- Outstanding balance. Not only quick on his feet, is also extremely difficult to take off his feet.
- Double identity. Perfected brawling techniques as Rick Casey, scientific techniques as Cooley—at the same time!

WEAKNESSES:

- Too comfortable in Continental area. Cooley enjoys being a big fish in a little pond, but this has hindered his development.
- Lack of persistence. Cooley doesn't go for the win when he has his man down.
- Defense. Does not take proper steps to protect prior injuries during particularly tough matches.

OTHER COMMENTS: Nickname is "Wildcat" . . . Held Mid-South tag team belts with Al Perez . . . Defeated Buddy Landell for Southeast Continental title on April 27 in Birmingham, Alabama . . . Once wrestled under the name Rick Casey . . . Involved in an intense feud last year with Exotic Adrian Street . . . Feuding violently with Landell.

OUTLOOK FOR '87: Cooley has all the tools necessary to win a world championship. He took Ric Flair to the limit on several occasions last year, and with a few more shots at the belt he might be the man who unseats the champion in the coming year. It should be a big one for the "Wildcat."



DANNY DAVIS

HOME TOWN: Dover, NH
HEIGHT: 6'
WEIGHT: 226
YEARS AS PRO: less than 1
RATING: unrated

STRENGTHS:

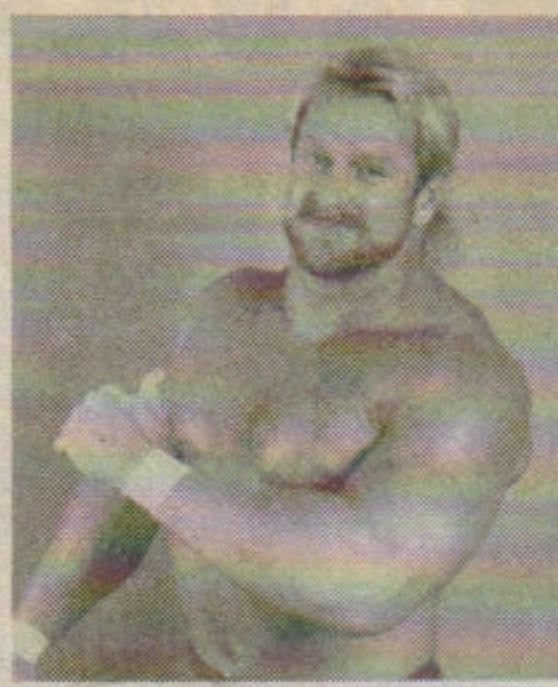
- Former ref. Very familiar with the rulebook and knows what he can get away with.
- Hart Foundation. When Davis gets in trouble, Jim Neidhart and Brett Hart are there to back him up.
- Underestimated. Stronger than opponents think; they go into a match against Davis without proper preparation.

WEAKNESSES:

- Lack of experience. A sloppy wrestler. The knowledge and skills he does have are poorly applied.
- Overmatched. Davis' training is as a referee, not a wrestler. He's much smaller than most of his opponents.
- Past. What wrestler wouldn't want to take a shot at this former referee who once made their lives miserable?

OTHER COMMENTS: Hit Davey Boy Smith with Jimmy Hart's megaphone to set up the pin in the six-man tag match at WrestleMania III . . . Suspended as a referee by WWF President Jack Tunney following questionable officiating in The Hart Foundation's WWF World title victory over The British Bulldogs.

OUTLOOK FOR '87: It has become painfully obvious that Davis is at a serious disadvantage as a wrestler. Davis simply doesn't have the skills to be a winner without the help of The Hart Foundation.



ED GANTNER

HOME TOWN: Tampa, FL
HEIGHT: 6'5"
WEIGHT: 280
YEARS AS PRO: 1½
RATING: No. 2 in Florida

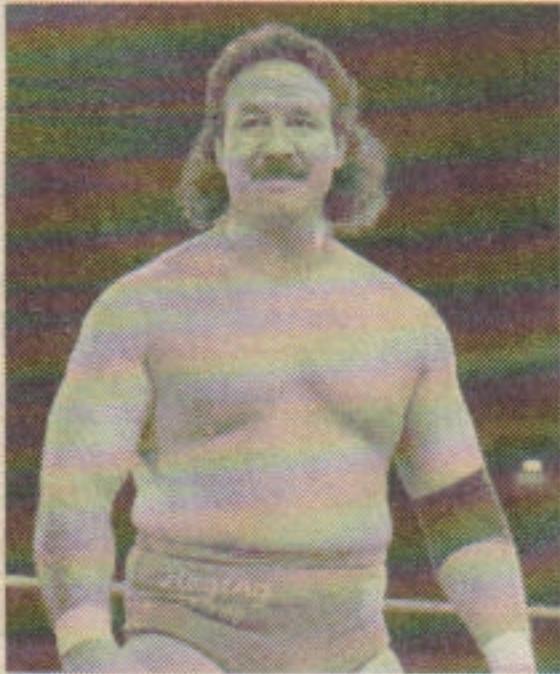
STRENGTHS:

- Excellent power. Gantner is a solidly built individual with a rugged workout regimen.
- Willing to learn. Surprisingly open-minded for a former rule-breaker. Has expressed interest in learning new skills from Mike Rotundo.
- Ability to absorb punishment. Strong chin. Can bounce back after taking a beating.

- One-dimensional. Relies too much on his power. Lacks solid wrestling ability.
- Telegraphs his punches. Opponents know what's coming. His offense is easily predicted and often stopped.
- Slow starter. Needs time to build up steam and wrestle to his full ability.

OTHER COMMENTS: Nickname is "The Bull" . . . Was part of Sir Oliver Humperdink's Army, but recently turned good and joined forces with Florida champion Mike Rotundo . . . Has the distinction of losing to Lex Luger in Luger's pro debut match.

OUTLOOK FOR '87: Will Gantner remain a fan favorite? That's the big question concerning this promising star, and the answer is the key to his fortunes in the coming year. Gantner has tremendous strength and power. Combined with Rotundo's scientific ability, the duo could be successful.



MANNY FERNANDEZ

HOME TOWN: San Jose, CA
HEIGHT: 6'
WEIGHT: 230
YEARS AS PRO: 9
RATING: No. 2 in tag team
 (with Rick Rude)

STRENGTHS:

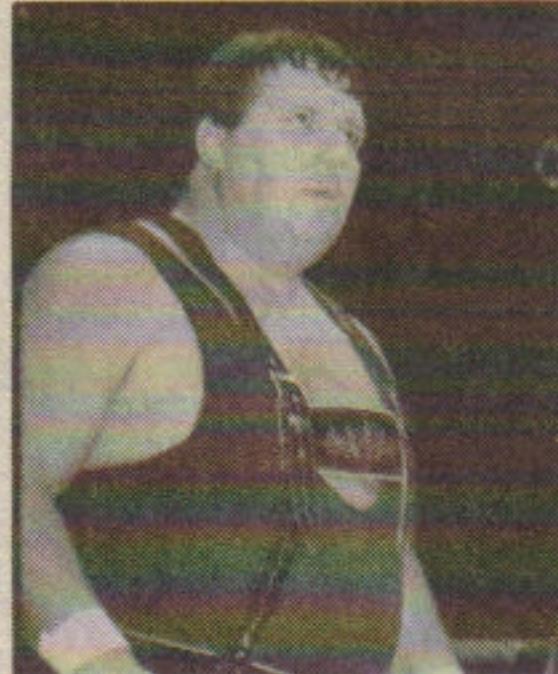
- Aerial skills. His flying burrito is an extremely effective finishing maneuver.
- Superb tag team wrestler. Has a reputation as one of the best in the game; skills blend perfectly with those of Rude.
- Football background. Has taken the skills learned in one sport and applied them to another.

WEAKNESSES:

- Bleeds easily. Fernandez is very susceptible to cuts.
- Hot-tempered. Loss of self-control has not only cost him many matches, but results in frequent disqualifications.
- Poor pacing. Fernandez tends to tire himself early, leaving nothing for the latter portions of a match.

OTHER COMMENTS: With partner Rick Rude, defeated The Rock 'n' Roll Express for the NWA World tag team belts on December 6, 1986 . . . Turned on Jimmy Valiant and joined Paul Jones' army last summer . . . Held NWA World tag belts with Dusty Rhodes from October 1984 to March 1985.

OUTLOOK FOR '87: Fernandez is one of the outstanding tag team performers in the game and has formed an exceptional—though underrated—tag team with the talented Rick Rude. They've proven their worthiness of the belts and might be hard to knock off.



OTTO WANZ

HOME TOWN: Graz, Austria
HEIGHT: 6'2"
WEIGHT: 360
YEARS AS PRO: 19
RATING: No. 4 in AWA

STRENGTHS:

- An outstanding wrestler. Classic European training has made him a skilled competitor.
- Confidence. A former AWA World champ, he knows he can do it again. Has proven himself in the ring.
- Experience. Having wrestled for nearly 20 years, Wanz has faced all types of wrestlers and dealt with virtually every move.

WEAKNESSES:

- Size. Overweight, the man is almost turtlelike. Get him on his back and he'll have a tough time getting up.
- Poor timing and speed. Takes too long to execute his moves, giving opponents plenty of time to escape.
- No longer unknown. The first time in the States, opponents didn't know who he was; has lost his edge of unpredictability.

OTHER COMMENTS: As a virtual unknown in this country, Wanz defeated Nick Bockwinkel for the AWA World title in 1982 . . . Held the belt for three weeks before losing it back to Bockwinkel . . . Recognized as European World champion . . . Holds Guinness world record for tearing phone books.

OUTLOOK FOR '87: Wanz has already accomplished a lot in his fine career, so viewing his short term outlook might be unrealistic. Much depends on whether he'll stay in America. If he does, he's already proven his ability to contend for the AWA World title.

SUPERCARDS '87

(Continued from page 49)

SUPERBLAST AT THE SUPERDOME— FULL RESULTS

- Gary Young pinned Jeff Raitz.
- Steve Cox defeated Super Ninja with a side suplex.
- Chavo Guerrero defeated Mike Boyette.
- The Angel of Death defeated Ken Massey.
- Michael Hayes and Buddy Roberts defeated Missing Link and Chavo Guerrero in a coal miner's glove match. Guerrero retrieved the glove from the pole, but was tripped up by Sunshine; Hayes got the glove then used it to pin Link.
- Eddie Gilbert pinned Sam Houston by holding his trunks.
- Nickla Roberts won a four-woman catfight that also included Missy Hyatt, Dark Journey, and Sunshine.
- Chris Adams and Terry Taylor defeated Rick Steiner and Sting to retain their UWF tag team belts.
- Savannah Jack defeated Iceman Parsons in a ghetto street fight, winning a reversed decision.
- With Gen. Skandor Akbar and Steve Cox handcuffed at ringside, One Man Gang retained his UWF title by disqualification against Steve Williams; OMG was disqualified for grabbing the keys from the timekeeper and unlocking his manager.
- The Fabulous Freebirds defeated The Angel of Death, "Wild" Bill Irwin, and The Viking as Gordy pinned Viking following a vicious piledriver.

mourn his brother's death. But wrestling is a sport, and sport is entertainment, and the show must go on.

Unfortunately, it doesn't mean that anybody has to show up.

In 1984, over 43,000 fans showed up at Texas Stadium to see Kerry Von Erich defeat Ric Flair for the NWA World heavyweight title. In 1985, 30,000 fans saw Kevin Von Erich battle Ric Flair. In 1986, just months after the World Class pulled out of the NWA, 24,121 were on hand at Texas Stadium. That number was considered disappointing—but this year, when only about 5,000 fans witnessed this year's Texas Stadium card, World Class promoters would have welcomed a crowd of 24,000.

These are tough days for the World Class area. One year after the decision was made, it appears that pulling out of the NWA was a drastic mistake. The World Class talent pool, now greatly diminished, could have benefited from the NWA's involvement in the card.

Which is not to say there weren't some high points in the Texas Stadium show. Red River Jack and Spike Huber defeated Abdullah the Butcher and Eli the Eliminator in a vicious brawl. The legendary Mil Mascaras returned

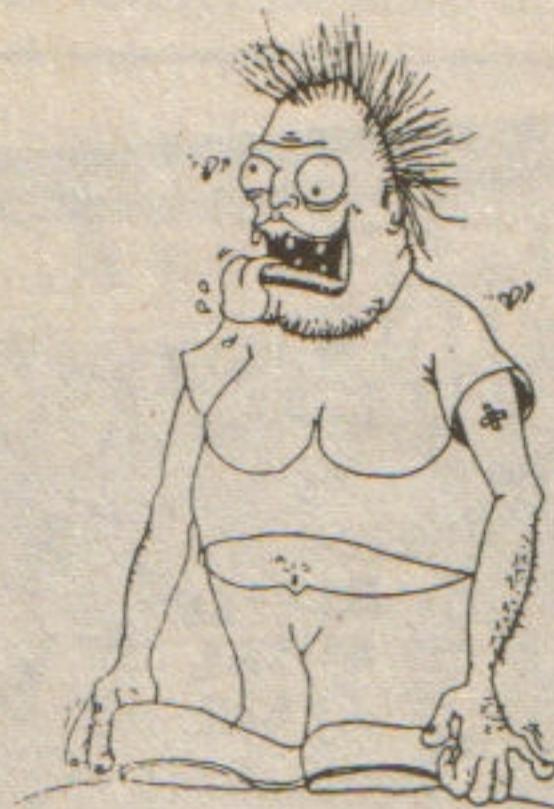
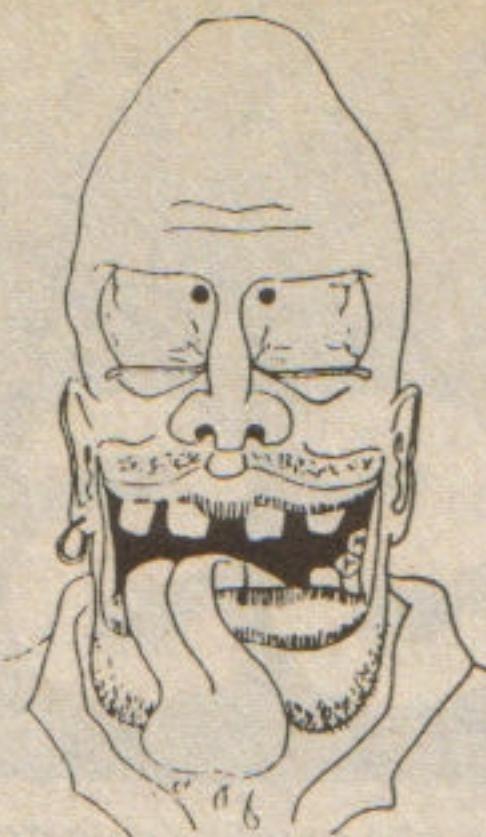


Chris Adams slugs Rick Steiner outside the ring, leaving Terry Taylor and Sting alone inside.

to pin Al Madril with a flying bodypress off the ropes. Kevin Von Erich retained his World Class title when he and Nord the Barbarian were both counted out. The Fantastics and Steve Simpson battled The RPMs and Eric Embry—on a scaffold! And Bruiser Brody pinned Mr. Jeep Swenson in a bloody brawl.

Still, with attendance down at all its arenas, one has to wonder what convinced World Class promoters to hold its big show in a 65,000-seat football stadium; this did little more than make the small crowd seem downright scarce. Before it embarks on yet another misadventure, World Class promoters would seem well-advised to get

(Continued on page 58)



APPROXIMATE SIZE 9" HIGH X 5" WIDE

6 DIFFERENT IRON-ON TRANSFERS
\$4.75 POSTPAID

Texas Residents Add 6 1/4 %
Sales Tax - \$.30

- CAN BE PUT ON SWEAT-SHIRTS, T SHIRTS
- CAN BE COLORED WITH ANY PERMANENT MARKER

TOTOCO

P.O. Box 1584
Gainesville, TX 76240

Enclosed is _____ for _____ sets of iron-ons
 CASH CHK M.O.

SEND TO:

NAME _____

ST. ADD. _____

P.O.BOX _____

APT. _____

CITY _____

ST. _____

ZIP _____

Allow 4-6 Weeks for Delivery.
U.S. CURRENCY MONEY ORDERS
ONLY - NO C.O.D.

WAREHOUSE CLEARANCE OF RARE BACK ISSUES

Here is a once in a lifetime opportunity to complete your collections of the finest wrestling magazines ever published. Many of the rare back issues listed below have not been offered for sale in years and we can offer them to you now only because a very limited number of each issue were recently uncovered during the move to our new warehouse. Some of the copies are not in perfect condition. But all are readable and intact. All sales are final and no refunds or exchanges will be made.

SPECIAL BACK ISSUE ORDER FORM

THE WRESTLER

- | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> FEBRUARY/74 | <input type="checkbox"/> SEPTEMBER/75 | <input type="checkbox"/> FEBRUARY/78 | <input type="checkbox"/> APRIL/81 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> APRIL/74 | <input type="checkbox"/> MAY/76 | <input type="checkbox"/> APRIL/78 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> JUNE/74 | <input type="checkbox"/> SEPTEMBER/76 | <input type="checkbox"/> JULY/78 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DECEMBER/74 | <input type="checkbox"/> AUGUST/76 | <input type="checkbox"/> AUGUST/78 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> APRIL/75 | <input type="checkbox"/> SEPTEMBER/77 | <input type="checkbox"/> JUNE/79 | |

INSIDE WRESTLING

- | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> FEBRUARY/74 | <input type="checkbox"/> DECEMBER/75 | <input type="checkbox"/> JULY/77 | <input type="checkbox"/> OCTOBER/80 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> MARCH/74 | <input type="checkbox"/> MAY/76 | <input type="checkbox"/> JULY/78 | <input type="checkbox"/> OCTOBER/81 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> JUNE/74 | <input type="checkbox"/> JULY/76 | <input type="checkbox"/> SEPTEMBER/78 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FEBRUARY/75 | <input type="checkbox"/> MARCH/77 | <input type="checkbox"/> MARCH/79 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> MAY/75 | <input type="checkbox"/> APRIL/77 | <input type="checkbox"/> DECEMBER/79 | |

SPORTS REVIEW

- | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> DECEMBER/73 | <input type="checkbox"/> APRIL/78 | <input type="checkbox"/> APRIL/79 | <input type="checkbox"/> AUGUST/83 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> JULY/75 | <input type="checkbox"/> JUNE/78 | <input type="checkbox"/> JUNE/79 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> JANUARY/76 | <input type="checkbox"/> JULY/78 | <input type="checkbox"/> JULY/79 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> JULY/76 | <input type="checkbox"/> AUGUST/78 | <input type="checkbox"/> DECEMBER/79 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> NOVEMBER/76 | <input type="checkbox"/> SEPTEMBER/78 | <input type="checkbox"/> SEPTEMBER/80 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> JANUARY/78 | <input type="checkbox"/> JANUARY/79 | <input type="checkbox"/> DECEMBER/80 | |

SPORTS REVIEW ANNUALS

- SPRING/78 WINTER/80
 SUMMER/78

VICTORY SPORTS SPECIALS

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> BIG BOOK 1968 | <input type="checkbox"/> SUPERSTARS JUNE/78 | <input type="checkbox"/> BEST OF WRESTLER SPR/80 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> PICTURE BOOK FALL/76 | <input type="checkbox"/> SUPERSTARS FALL/78 | <input type="checkbox"/> BEST OF WRESTLER WIN/80 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> PICTURE BOOK MAY/77 | <input type="checkbox"/> SUPERSTARS APR/79 | <input type="checkbox"/> BEST OF WRESTLER SPR/82 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> PICTURE BOOK SPR/78 | <input type="checkbox"/> SUPERSTARS OCT/79 | <input type="checkbox"/> BEN STRONG SEPT/74 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> PICTURE BOOK FALL/78 | <input type="checkbox"/> BEST OF WRESTLER SUM/77 | <input type="checkbox"/> BEN STRONG SUM/75 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> PICTURE BOOK SUM/79 | <input type="checkbox"/> BEST OF WRESTLER FALL/77 | <input type="checkbox"/> WRESTLING ALBUM #4 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> PICTURE BOOK JAN/80 | <input type="checkbox"/> BEST OF WRESTLER WIN/77 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SUPERSTARS APR/77 | <input type="checkbox"/> BEST OF WRESTLER SUM/78 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SUPERSTARS FEB/78 | <input type="checkbox"/> BEST OF WRESTLER SPR/79 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SUPERSTARS APR/78 | <input type="checkbox"/> BEST OF WRESTLER FEB/80 | |

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE AND SEND TO:

T.V. SPORTS
BOX 48
ROCKVILLE CENTRE, NY 11571

Please send me the rare back issues I have checked. I am enclosing \$5.00 for EACH copy I am ordering, which includes all shipping and postage charges.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

\$5.00 each

Special Bargain Price:
 Any Five Issues For \$20.00

BE SURE TO LIST SUBSTITUTE CHOICES

In case you are sold out of the issues I have checked, I will accept any of the following rare back issues as substitutes.

Substitute #1 _____ Substitute #3 _____

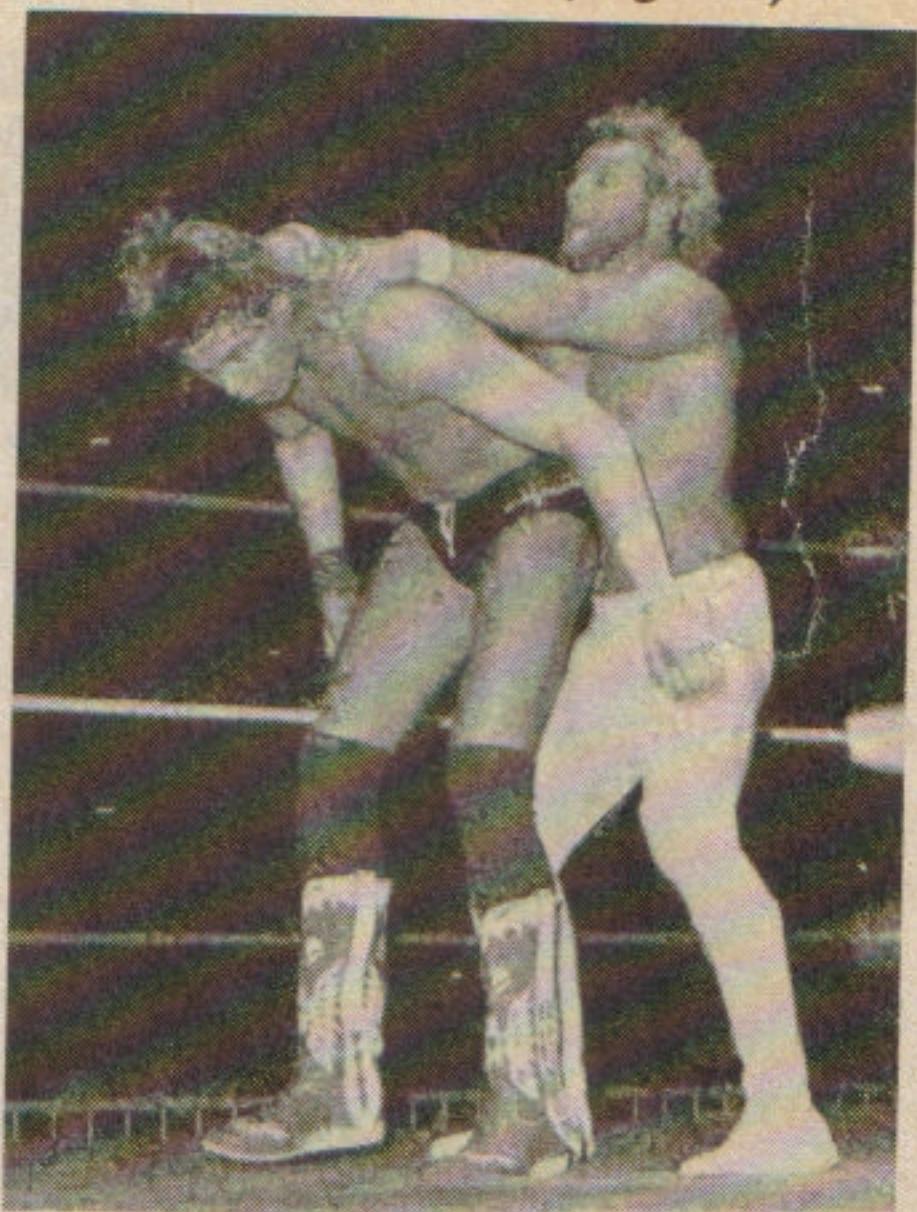
Substitute #2 _____ Substitute #4 _____

For fastest delivery payment should be made by money order. Allow an additional 2 weeks for delivery when payment is made by personal check. While we will accept cash payments, it must be understood that we are not responsible for cash sent through the mail. Do not send coins!

Prices effective in U.S. and Canada. U.S. funds only.

SUPERCARDS '87

(Continued from page 56)



Eddie Gilbert presses the attack against an exhausted Sam Houston on his way to a tainted victory.

their house in order. If they don't, the fourth annual David Von Erich Memorial might have been the last.

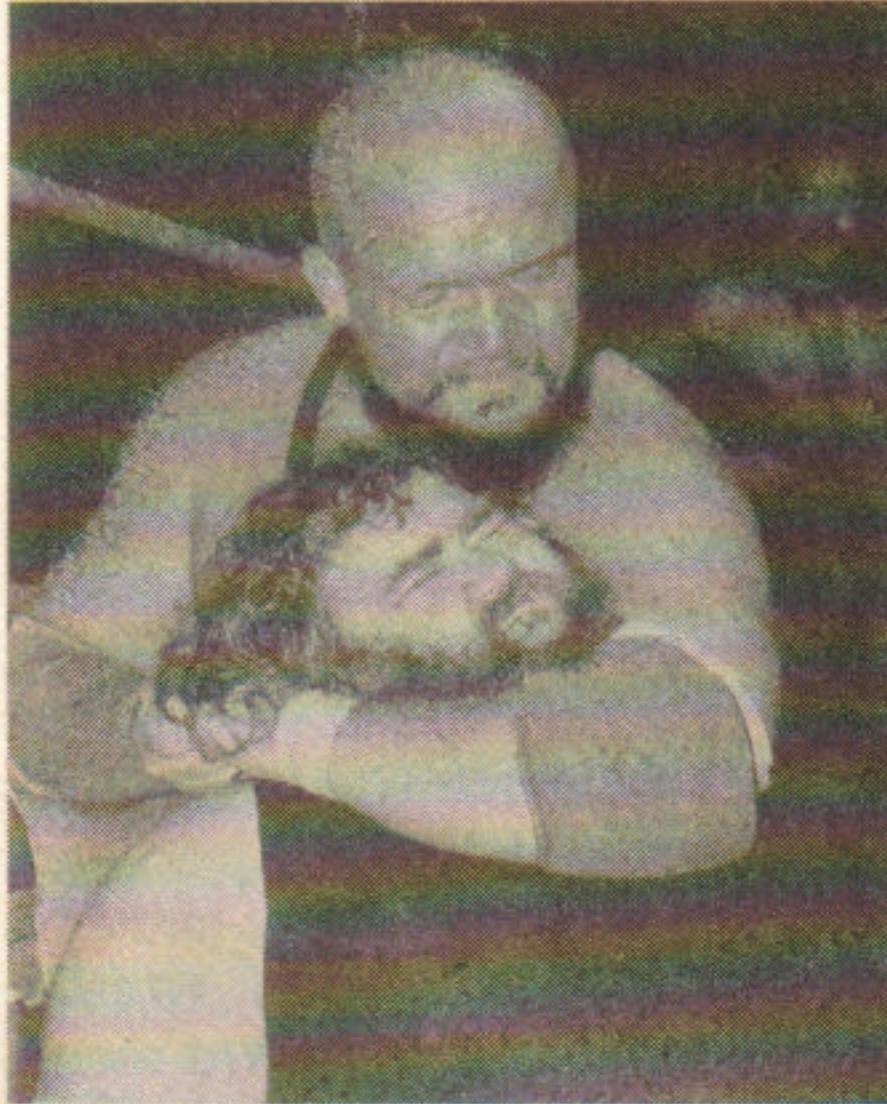
Such is probably the case for the UWF's Superblast at the Superdome, which drew a disappointing crowd of 3,000. Once again, the small crowd seemed even smaller in this 70,000-seat football stadium.

As is usually the case, however, the UWF treated its fans to an outstanding set of matches. Loaded with top-level stars such as The Freebirds, Eddie Gilbert, Chris Adams, Terry Taylor, Sting, Iceman Parsons, One Man Gang, Steve Williams, and Ted DiBiase, the UWF made full use of its outstanding talent.

Things are looking up for the UWF. Recent agreements to co-promote cards with the NWA should provide a wider range of talent in the coming year. Although One Man Gang and Hacksaw Duggan are gone, potential matches such as Ted DiBiase, Steve Williams, Terry Taylor, or even Chris Adams against NWA World champion Ric Flair should be enough to significantly improve interest in any future UWF shows in the Superdome.

It should be an interesting and telling year for both the UWF and the World Class areas.

TWO SUPERCARDS THAT WEREN'T SUPPOSED TO BE SO SUPER—AND ONE THAT WAS. Sometimes, a wrestling show outshines anybody's expectations. What at first looks like an ordinary card turns out to be a memorable event. The crowd is larger than expected, something unusual occurs, or a great match takes place. Unfortunately, there are times when cards that are meant to be SuperCards are so disappointing that you can't even attach the label



Boris Zukhov headlocks Jerry Blackwell as he and Stanislaus Ustinov advance over Blackwell and Paul Neu in the AWA tag team tourney.

"SuperCard" to it anymore.

On Sunday, April 12, in Atlanta, Georgia, the UWF combined with the Deep South region to present its first-ever show at The Omni. A crowd of 8,500 fans saw an outstanding card, headlined by Sting and Rick Steiner's controversial victory over Chris Adams and Terry Taylor for the UWF tag team title. By many accounts, this was one of the greatest matches ever held in The Omni.

Only 1,500 fans saw the AWA's Easter Sunday show at the Minnesota Auditorium. Originally advertised to be a tournament for \$50,000 and the right to meet The Midnight Rockers for the AWA World tag team championship in the evening's main event, the plans were at the last minute changed to scrap the title match and offer the tournament's winner a chance at the Rockers at a later date. It's lucky for promoters that

(Continued on page 60)

AN EXCLUSIVE OFFER FROM PRO **Wrestling Illustrated**

THE WORLD'S LARGEST-SELLING WRESTLING MAGAZINE

Now you can join the ranks of wrestling's greatest superstars and be featured on the cover of wrestling's largest-selling magazine, *Pro Wrestling Illustrated*

And it's easy—you don't have to spend 10 years as a professional wrestler... you don't have to become engaged in one of wrestling's toughest feuds... you don't even have to win the NWA or AWA World titles!

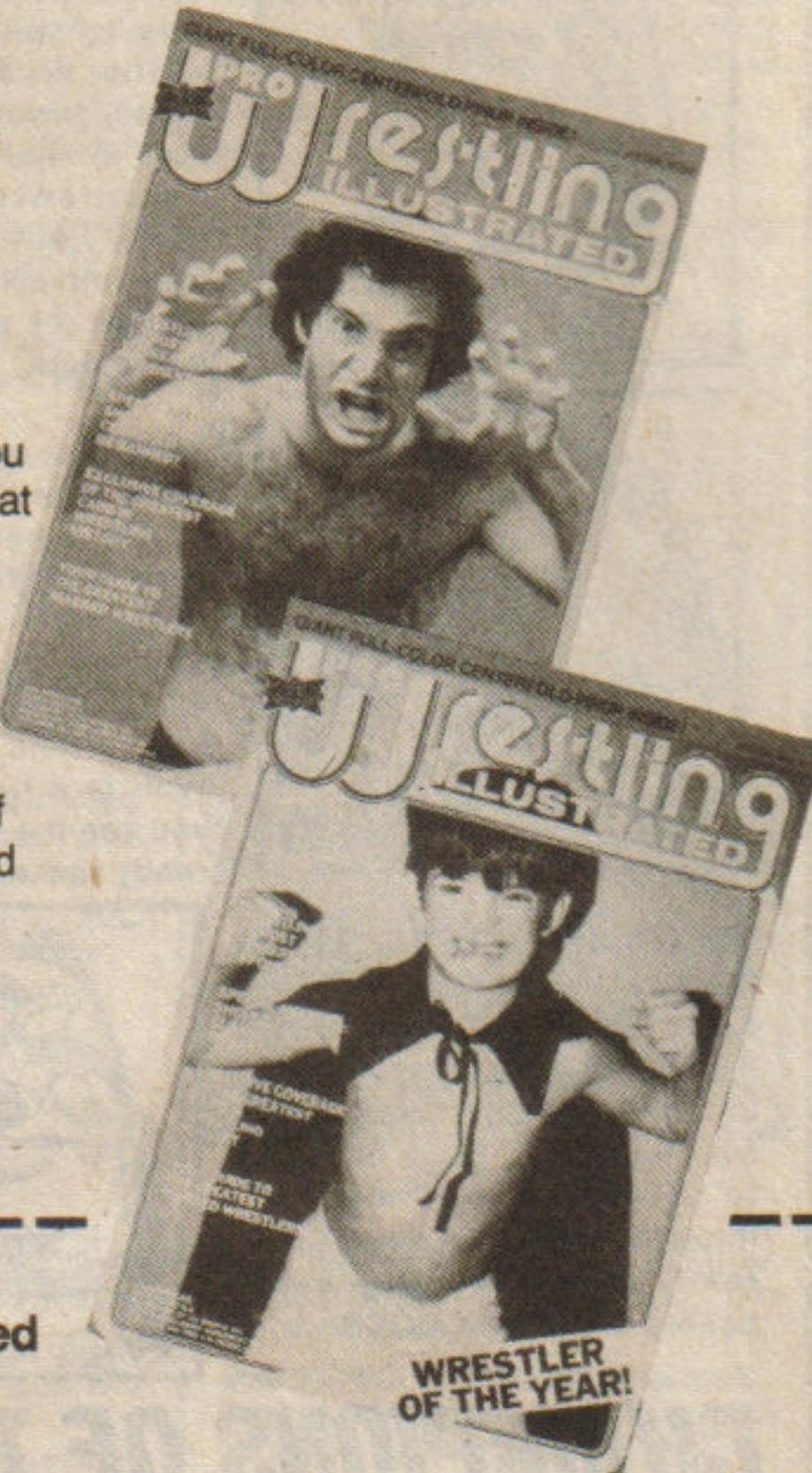
All you've got to do is have a sharp, in-focus color photo of yourself. Any size will do, but it must be a clear, color photo

FOTOZINES will take your photo and place you on the cover of *Pro Wrestling Illustrated*. It's that easy. And the result is a beautiful, heavy laminated cover enclosed in a highest-quality lucite frame suitable for hanging on the wall of your room or office

The low price of only \$19.95 (plus \$3.00 shipping and handling) includes your photo on the cover of *Pro Wrestling Illustrated* plus the lucite frame. And you can order additional framed copies of that cover for only \$14.95 ea. (plus \$3.00 shipping and handling)

It's the perfect present for the wrestling fan on your gift list.

Order yours today!



MAIL TO:
FOTOZINES/Pro Wrestling Illustrated
P.O. Box 747
Windermere, Florida 32786

Sirs: Please put me on the cover of *Pro Wrestling Illustrated*. I have enclosed a clearly focused, color photograph that I'd like to have reproduced on a cover. I understand that my photo will be returned in its original condition, along with my *Pro Wrestling Illustrated* FOTOZINE cover plus a special lucite frame. I have enclosed a check or money order (payable to FOTOZINES) for the amount as indicated below:

ITEM	QUANTITY	PRICE
FOTOZINE (including lucite frame)	one	\$19.95
Duplicate framed FOTOZINES		\$14.95 ea.
POSTAGE AND HANDLING (\$3.00 per item)		\$
Florida Residents add 5% sales tax		\$
	TOTAL:	\$

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

FOTOZINES also accepts VISA and MasterCard orders.

()VISA Account Number: Exp.Date:

()MasterCard Account Number: Exp.Date:

YOUR SIGNATURE: _____

Allow 3-4 weeks for delivery.

STEP ASIDE HULK HOGAN, RIC FLAIR, AND KEVIN VON ERICH . . .

ONLY \$9.95

HERE COMES THE FUTURE OF WRESTLING!



STAR WARRIOR

Here's wrestling's hero of the future. The villains hate to mess with Star Warrior because he's got speed, power, and knows how to win! He finishes opponents with his NOVA LAUNCH leap off the turnbuckle. Currently ranked #1 according to fan ratings.



WOLF

Move over Roddy Piper. There's never been a loner like Wolf! Make no mistake — Wolf is an animal! His SAVAGE FACE CLAW is bloody torture! And guess what? Wolf is a hero. Wait till you see the villains! Currently ranked #5.



You become the Galaxian Federation promoter! You decide which of 24 wrestlers will battle for the Galaxian Belt! You set up cage matches, death matches, and elimination tournaments!

BRUTE and MASSACRE

Set up the cage! Massacre and Brute are the Federation's biggest headbangers! A word of warning: don't invite them over for dinner. Brute is liable to piledrive your mother through the kitchen floor! Currently ranked #2 Tag-team behind the GREEK GODS.



CHAMPIONS OF THE GALAXY WRESTLING GAME

© 1986, Filsinger Games

GAME EQUIPMENT

- PLAYING CARDS for 24 Galaxian Federation wrestlers. Each card features an exciting picture of the wrestler on the front and game information on back.
- WRESTLER DESCRIPTION GUIDE. 12 pages of pictures and info about each wrestler, including who they like and who they hate!
- GAME CHARTS for when a wrestler is tossed out of the ring or tries to leap off the turnbuckle!
- RULE BOOKLET, PLAYING DICE, and MORE!

All this is included for the Low Price of \$9.95!

**DON'T
DELAY!
ORDER
NOW!**

Send your name, address and a check or money order for \$11.50 (\$9.95 for the game and \$1.55 for postage and handling) to:

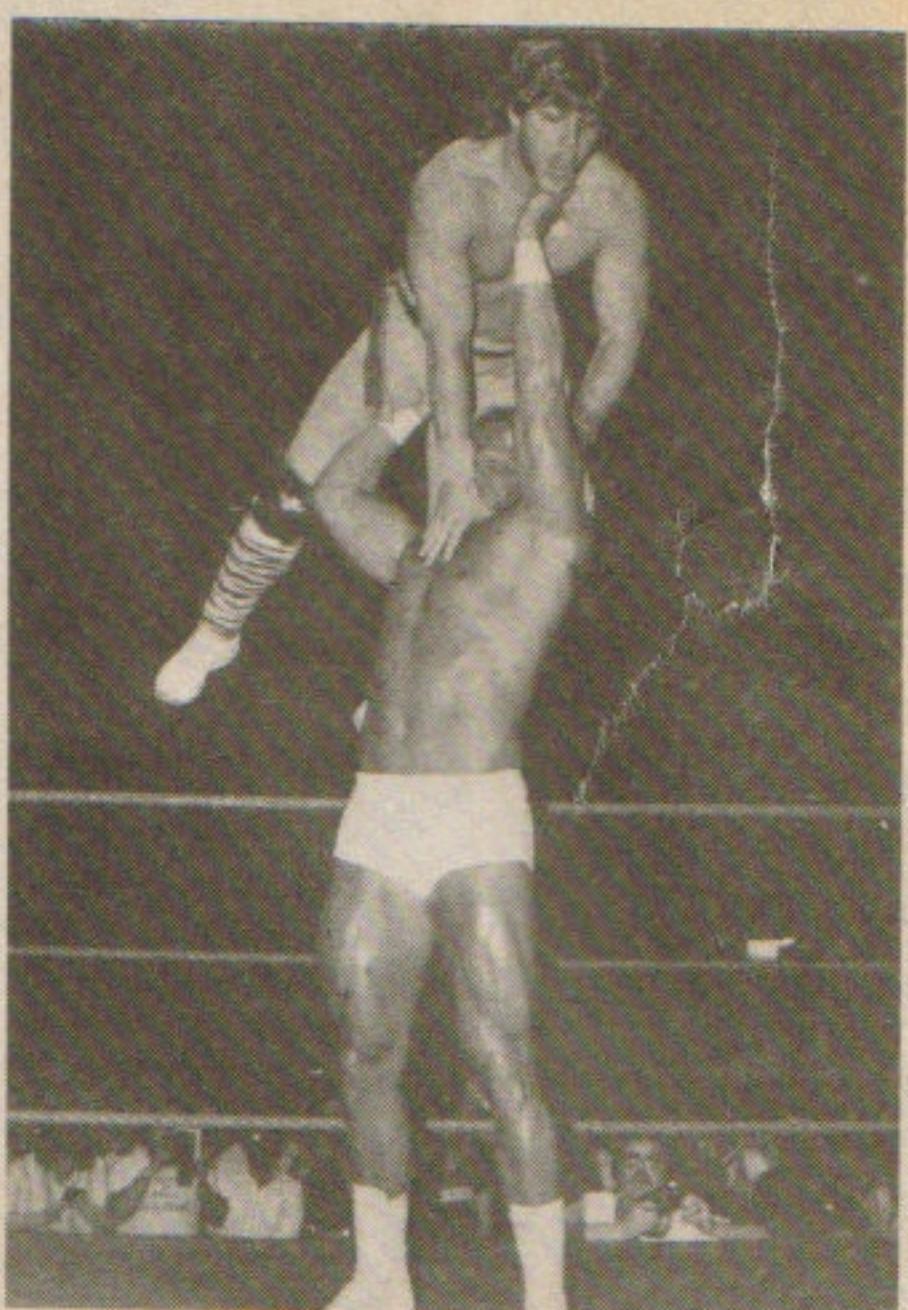
FILSINGER GAMES
P.O. BOX 24794
LYNDHURST, OHIO 44124
Allow 3-5 weeks for delivery

Canadian orders \$16.00 total

Ohio orders \$12.25 total

SUPERCARDS '87

(Continued from page 59)



Kevin Kelly press slams Shawn Michaels during his and Doug Somers' opening round defeat in the AWA tag team tournament.

the Rockers didn't win the tournament, because it would have been difficult to convince Marty Jannetty and Shawn Michaels to wrestle each other! There were two memorable events on this show: Curt Hennig turned on teammate Greg Gagne, and Boris Zukhov and Stanislaus Ustinov defeated The Midnight Rockers in the non-title tournament final. But with the memory of last year's highly successful WrestleRock '86 still fresh in the fans' minds, this card had to be a major disappointment.

On a brighter note, there was the April 27 Mid-Southern show at Memphis' Mid-South Coliseum. More than 9,500 fans thrilled to one of the most exciting battles in the area's history: Austin Idol's victory over Jerry Lawler in a hair vs. hair cage match for the Mid-Southern title. Idol and Tommy Rich (who was hiding under the ring) brutalized Lawler after the match while "The King's" hair was cut to crew cut length by a local barber.

Certainly, that April 27 show proved, more than any other in recent memory, that almost any card can be a SuperCard under the right conditions. That's what makes professional wrestling the greatest sport in the world. □

FIRST CLASS BACK ISSUES

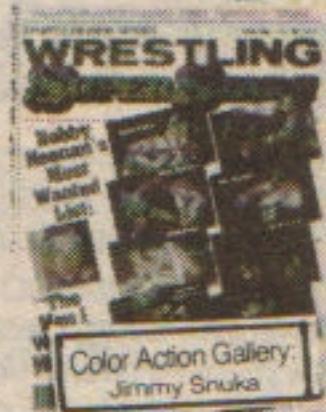
ONLY \$3.00 EACH

WRESTLING SUPERSTARS

Each issue features a spectacular full-color centerfold
Action Gallery of one of wrestling's hottest stars.



FALL/83



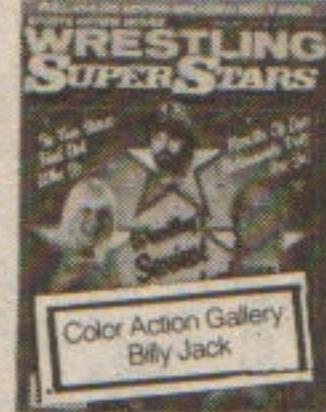
WINTER/83



SPRING/84



FALL/84



WINTER/84



SPRING/85



SUMMER/85



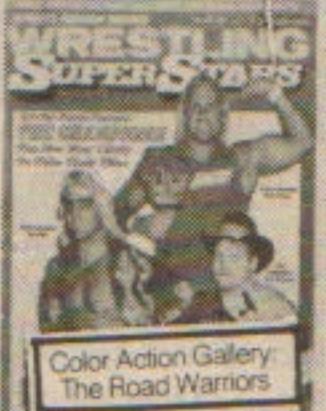
FALL/85



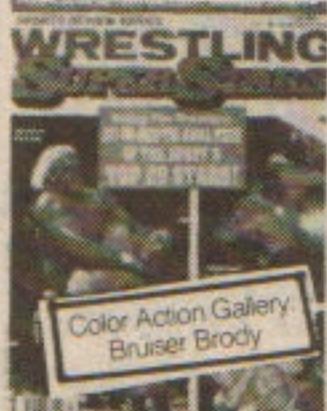
WINTER/85



SPRING/86



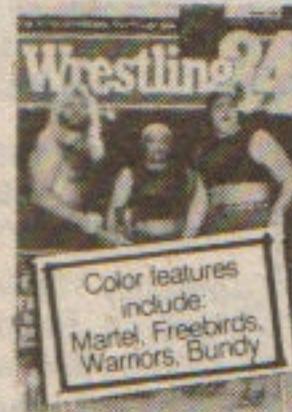
SUMMER/86



FALL/86

WRESTLING 84-86

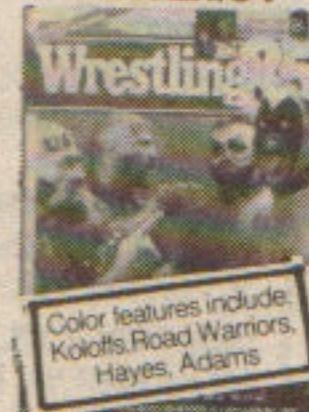
Printed on slick paper, each issue is jam-packed with 16 pages of full-color photos



WINTER/84



SUMMER/85



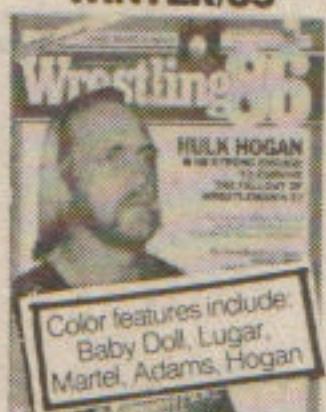
FALL/85



WINTER/85



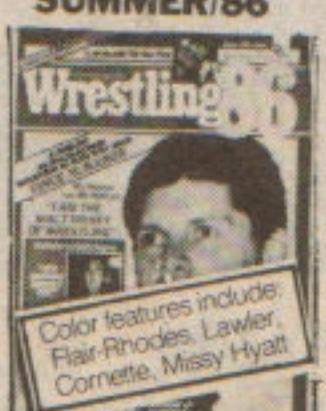
SPRING/86



SUMMER/86



FALL/86



WINTER/86

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE AND MAIL TO:

T.V. SPORTS
BOX 48
ROCKVILLE CENTRE, NY 11571

Please send me the back issues I've checked. I enclose \$ _____ as payment
in full. PRINT YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS CLEARLY

In case of a sellout, indicate substitute choice: _____

Name _____

Address _____ Apt. _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

For all orders except the U.S. and Canada, you must add one dollar for every back issue ordered
for boat mail, and two dollars for every back issue ordered for airmail. U.S. funds only.

Please allow 4-6 weeks for delivery

WRESTLING SUPERSTARS

- | | | | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fall/83 | <input type="checkbox"/> Fall/84 | <input type="checkbox"/> Summer/85 | <input type="checkbox"/> Spring/86 | <input type="checkbox"/> Winter/86 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Winter/83 | <input type="checkbox"/> Winter/84 | <input type="checkbox"/> Fall/85 | <input type="checkbox"/> Summer/86 | <input type="checkbox"/> Spring/87 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Spring/84 | <input type="checkbox"/> Spring/85 | <input type="checkbox"/> Winter/85 | <input type="checkbox"/> Fall/86 | |

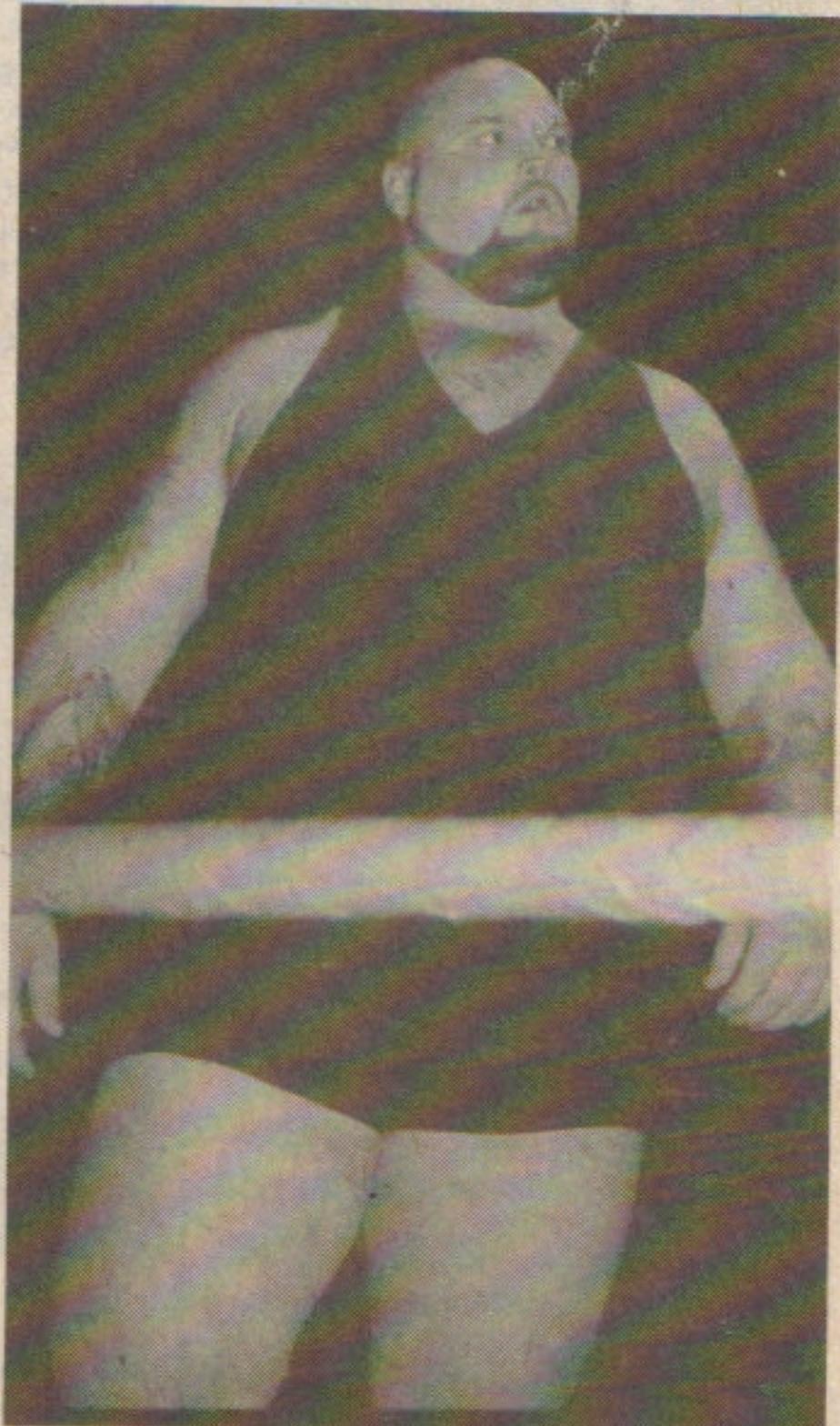
WRESTLING 1984-87

- | | | | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Winter/84 | <input type="checkbox"/> Fall/85 | <input type="checkbox"/> Spring/86 | <input type="checkbox"/> Fall/86 | <input type="checkbox"/> Spring/87 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Summer/85 | <input type="checkbox"/> Winter/85 | <input type="checkbox"/> Summer/86 | <input type="checkbox"/> Winter/86 | |

RINGSIDE

(Continued from page 10)

Maivia Jr. is the Pacific heavyweight champion (a California Championship Wrestling title, not to be confused with the Polynesian Pacific title currently held by **Superfly Tui**), but he's receiving strong opposition from **Jack Armstrong**. Maivia also holds the All-Star CCW tag team title with **Mando Guerrero**.



Because he continued to refuse to pay his \$5,000 fine, Bam Bam Bigelow missed a title shot against AWA World champion Nick Bockwinkel.

There is more trouble brewing with **Bam Bam Bigelow** in the Mid-Southern area. Bigelow, of course, had been suspended for 30 days after refusing to pay a \$5,000 fine (Bigelow and **Jerry Lawler** had both been fined for seriously injuring **Tommy Rich**). Well, Bigelow's suspension is over, but he still refuses to pay the fine. Therefore, Mid-Southern officials decided that the suspension is still in effect. As a result, Bigelow missed a title shot against AWA World champion **Nick Bockwinkel**, and a tag team match with **Bill Dundee** against Rich and **Austin Idol**.

AWA World tag team champions **The Midnight Rockers** defeated Idol and Rich by disqualification in

Louisville, Kentucky ... The Continental area has a big card scheduled for August 2 at Holiday Beach in Woodstock, Alabama. Called "Beach Brawl '87," there will be a fishing contest, a bikini contest to crown Miss Continental, a rock concert with the wrestlers, and five big matches.

Capt. Lou Albano will appear in a **Cyndi Lauper** film currently under production called **Vibes**. He has also become a semi-regular on **Hollywood Squares**. Albano and several other wrestlers also appear in the movie **Body Slam**, which was slated to open May 15 in Los Angeles ... **Kerry Von Erich** is hoping to get back into competitive shape so that he can take his feud with **Brian Adias** into the ring ... **Barry Windham** lost a title match by a controversial countout in a bout against UWF heavyweight champ **Bubba Rogers**.

As we go to press, **The Midnight Express** and **The Rock 'n' Roll Express** are getting ready for their big confrontation in the third week of the NWA's tournament for the vacant U.S. tag team belts. **Jim Cornette's** Express is a rejuvenated unit since the firing of **Dennis Condrey** and subsequent hiring of **Stan Lane**. Lane and **Bobby Eaton** have formed a dynamic duo that promises to restore the Express to their past glory.

The good news of the tournament: The Rock 'n' Rolls' hopes were buoyed by doctor's reports that **Rick Morton's** eye injury was not as bad as originally suspected. Morton and **Robert Gibson** are slumping, but the Midnights usually bring out the best in the former NWA World tag team champs.

Two tournament matches have already been held. **Barry Windham** and **Ron Garvin** won by disqualification over **Vladimir Petrov** and **Ivan Koloff** in week one. The second week, **The New Breed** battled **Bob** and **Brad Armstrong** to a time-limit draw, eliminating both teams.

That's all for now. See you at the matches! □

WRESTLING USA

WRESTLING USA, our biggest magazine (more than 80 pages, including a FULL-COLOR section) is now available to collectors and fans. Quantities are limited, so order yours today.

The All-American Back Issue Offer!

☆ ☆ ☆ ONLY \$3.00 EACH ☆ ☆ ☆



SPRING 1984



SUMMER 1984



FALL 1984



WINTER 1984



SPRING 1985



SUMMER 1985



FALL 1985



WINTER 1985



SPRING 1986



SUMMER 1986



FALL 1986



WINTER 1986

Make check payable and send to:

TV SPORTS
BOX 48
ROCKVILLE CENTRE, NY 11571

ONLY \$3.00 EACH

WRESTLING USA

<input type="checkbox"/> SPRING 1984	<input type="checkbox"/> WINTER 1984	<input type="checkbox"/> FALL 1985	<input type="checkbox"/> SUMMER 1986	<input type="checkbox"/> SPRING 1987
<input type="checkbox"/> SUMMER 1984	<input type="checkbox"/> SPRING 1985	<input type="checkbox"/> WINTER 1985	<input type="checkbox"/> FALL 1986	<input type="checkbox"/> SUMMER 1987
<input type="checkbox"/> FALL 1984	<input type="checkbox"/> SUMMER 1985	<input type="checkbox"/> SPRING 1986	<input type="checkbox"/> WINTER 1986	

Please send me the back issues I've checked. I enclose \$3.00 for each issue I've ordered.

In case of a sellout, please indicate substitute choice: _____

Amount Enclosed \$ _____

NAME _____
PRINT YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS CLEARLY

ADDRESS _____ APT# _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

For all orders except U.S. and Canada, you must add \$1.00 for each issue ordered for boat mail, and \$2.00 for each issue ordered for air mail. U.S. funds only. Please allow 3-4 weeks for delivery.

A SECOND CHANCE TO CATCH "THE BIG ONES"



The year-end issues of *Pro Wrestling Illustrated* are always the most anticipated wrestling magazines of the year. And the 1985 and 1986 issues were the best ones we ever published. Each is more than 90 pages, and contains the year-end features *PWI* readers have come to expect. We have limited supplies of these newsstand sell-outs, so don't be disappointed twice. Order your copies today. Only \$5.00 each.

Make check or money order payable and send to:
**TV SPORTS
BOX 48
ROCKVILLE CENTRE, NY 11571**

Please rush me the magazines I have checked below. I enclose \$5.00 for each one I am ordering.

- PWI March 1986
(1985 Year-End Special)
- PWI March 1987
(1986 Year-End Special)

Name _____

Address _____

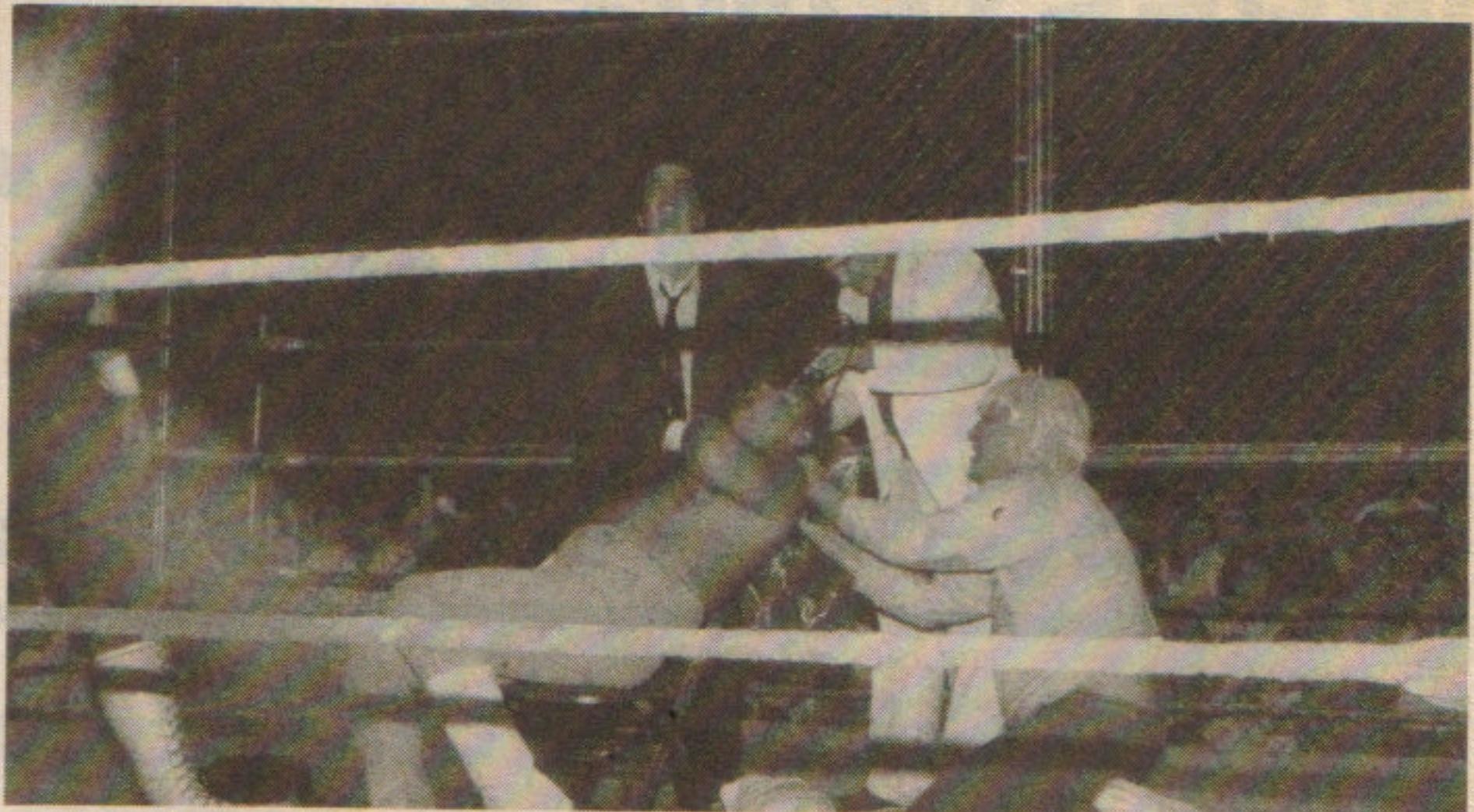
City _____

State _____ Zip _____

U.S. funds only. All other countries \$7.00.
Please allow 3-4 weeks for delivery.

PRESS CONFERENCE

(Continued from page 31)



and be a little bit gracious about it, so I figured I'd give both of them a chance to beat me for the match against Bockwinkel. Then, those two conniving, lowdown skunks got together and teamed up on me. I'm not gonna forget that, and I'm not gonna forget what they did to me ...

SAKS: How can you? They did it to you again!

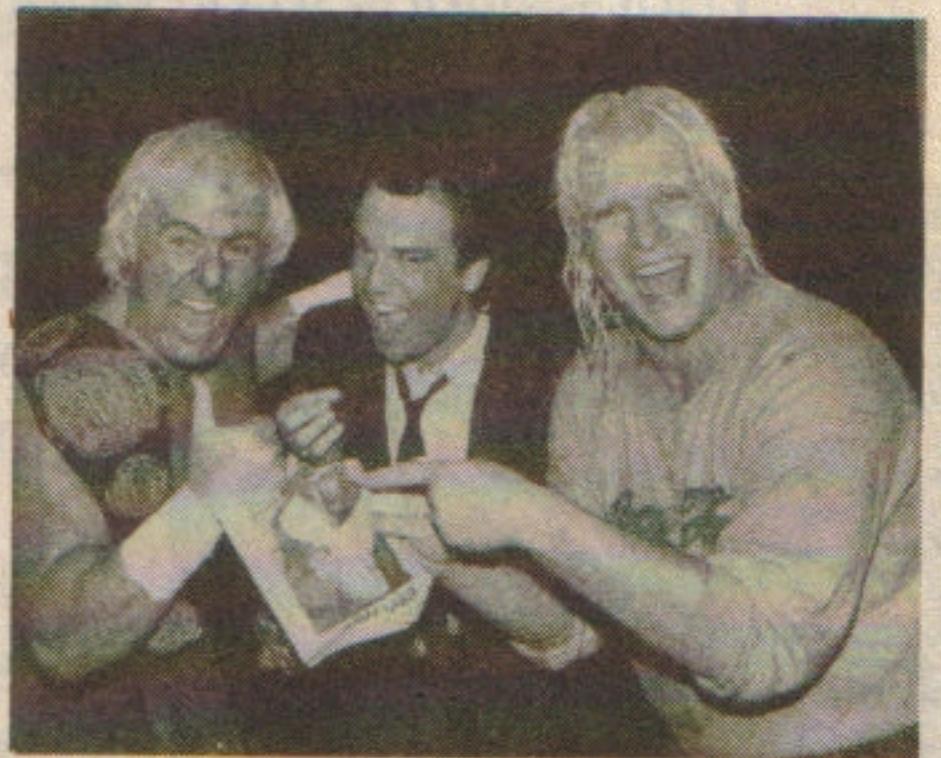
LAWLER: And they'll try to do it another time unless I put an end to it. Listen, I've wasted enough of my time with those two guys. I want to concentrate on the Mid-Southern belt, that's all, and if a shot against Bockwinkel comes along the way, fine. This whole thing has gotten out of hand.

ROSENBAUM: It's kind of spread out as it's gone along, too. You somehow recruited Bam Bam Bigelow, but now he's gone. Any comment on the Bigelow situation?

LAWLER: First of all, Bigelow is a changed man. When he was here the first time, he was a hot rookie with a big head. Now, he realizes that he's gonna have to take another direction in order to be successful. Mind you, though, that I don't think he ever really intended to help me against Idol and Rich. He was just looking to further his career, which is fine with me. Not paying the fine, though, and taking the suspension might have been a big mistake. It slowed him down once again.

PETERS: But he should be back by the time you return, shouldn't he?

A local barber shaves Lawler's head (above). Idol, his adviser Paul Dangerly, and Rich display a bag filled with "The King's" hair and have a good laugh at Lawler's expense (below).



From what I hear, you two are ready to team up once again against Rich and Idol. That should be quite a battle.

LAWLER: That should be a war because Bam Bam is uncontrollable. The man is a monster, we all know that, and I certainly know it because I wrestled him enough times. That nutcracker thing we did to Rich? It was his idea, not mine. He came up to me and said, "You know that thing with the ringposts they did to you? Let's give 'em a taste of their own medicine." And he enjoyed doing it, I'll guarantee you that.

SAKS: And you didn't?

LAWLER: You'd better believe I enjoyed it. Any time either of those two guys is in pain, I'm happy. Make no bones about it, buddy, I'm looking to run those two creeps out of wrestling. "The King" rules Memphis and that's the way it's gotta be. They might have the edge for now, but it's only tempo-

rary. Good fortune is always only temporary for guys like that.

APTER: Jerry, I don't think I've ever seen anything as brutal as what those two guys did to you during the head shaving the other night. Did you realize what was going on at the time?

LAWLER: In all honesty, guys, I was dazed from that nutcracker and the piledrivers. I had no idea what was going on. I just kept hearing this buzz going through my head and this faint feeling of them beating on me, but I was so numb, I really didn't feel much. When I got back to the dressing room, the doctors managed to bring me back, and when I looked in the mirror, I was pretty much in shock.

ROSENBAUM: You don't like your new hair style?

LAWLER: I'm not too crazy about it, but if the truth must be known, "The King" always looks great no matter what anybody does to him. Besides, it'll grow back and the pain of this damn injury will go away. The only thing that won't change is my desire to get revenge.

PETERS: Are you thinking about another hair vs. hair cage match? If so, I'd suggest you check under the ring before the match begins. Either that or have somebody, maybe Bigelow, at ringside to stave off outside interference. As you said, Rich and Idol will stoop to anything.

LAWLER: I don't care. I'll take 'em both on, at the same time if I have to. Look, I was startled when Rich all of a sudden popped up from under the ring, and I didn't have time to react. Next time, I'll be ready for anything they do. There's nothing that's gonna stop me. If Bam Bam wants to join the party, fine, but I'm more than capable of handling this on my own.

APTER: Sounds like a very determined Jerry Lawler. Jerry, once again, thank you for your time.

LAWLER: It's my pleasure, but I'd rather be wrestling than holed up in this house. I'm aching to get back, but when I return, it's Rich and Idol that'll be aching.

IT'S IN THE BAG



The Official *Pro Wrestling Illustrated* and *KO Magazine* canvas tote bags are just right for carrying gym equipment and school books. They are also perfect as a lightweight overnight bag for those short business trips or when you sleep over at a friend's house.

These large, 10" x 20" 12-ounce bags are made of sturdy cotton canvas with web handles and a self-repairing zipper. Whatever your bag is, these tote bags are made for you.

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE AND SEND TO:

T.V. SPORTS
Box 48
Rockville Centre, NY 11571

ONLY \$14.95 EACH

Please send me the Official Canvas Tote Bags I've ordered below. I enclose \$14.95 for each bag I've ordered. (Prices are for shipment within the U.S. All other countries add \$3.00 per order to cover additional handling and shipping costs.)

**PRO WRESTLING
ILLUSTRATED TOTE BAG**
(Red with white logo)
\$14.95 each



KO TOTE BAG
(Royal Blue with white logo)
\$14.95 each



NAME _____

ADDRESS _____ APT. _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

Please allow 4-6 weeks for delivery. U.S. funds only. Do not send coins.

ARENA

This special feature is for all fans who want to know who won and who lost . . . and how. *Pro Wrestling Illustrated* will print eyewitness reports from correspondents who attend the matches. If you'd like to have your correspondent report printed in the world's largest-selling wrestling magazine, send it to: *Arena Report; PWI, Box 48; Rockville Centre, NY 11571.*

BALTIMORE ARENA (Baltimore): Randy Savage defeated Rick Steamboat by countout . . . Jake Roberts pinned Bobby Heenan . . . The Hart Foundation defeated The British Bulldogs by disqualification . . . Hercules Hernandez pinned Billy Jack Haynes in a bloody chain match . . . Hacksaw Jim Duggan pinned The Iron Sheik . . . The Can-Am Connection defeated The Shadows by pinfall . . . Ron Bass pinned Nick Kiniski . . . S.D. Jones pinned Jimmy Jack Funk.

—Dave McAllister

BEAUMONT CIVIC CENTER (Beaumont, TX): The Fabulous Freebirds defeated Wild Bill Irwin, Angel of Death, & One Man Gang . . . Chavo Guerrero defeated Gary Young in a \$39,000 pole match . . . Iceman Parsons beat Savannah Jack . . . Eddie Gilbert defeated Sam Houston . . . Steve Williams pinned The Viking in a \$10,000 challenge match . . . Steve Cox pinned The Super Ninja.

—Bart Simon

BROWN COUNTY ARENA (Green Bay, WI): Nick Bockwinkel pinned Larry Zbyszko . . . Jerry Blackwell & Buck Zumhofe defeated Boris Zukhov & Yuri Andropolis by disqualification . . . Curt Hennig pinned Doug Somers with a rolling reverse cradle . . . Karate Kid & Little Brutus defeated Little Tokyo & Lord Littlebrook . . . Paul Neu splashed Jerry Sagnowich . . . Brian Knobbs and Trent James battled to a draw.

—Cody Rodgers

CALGARY CORRAL (Calgary, Alberta): Brett Hart beat Davey Boy Smith in a chain match . . . Owen Hart beat Ron Starr by disqualification . . . Kerry Brown & Duke Myers beat Johnny Smith & Ron Ritchie . . . Bruce Hart & Brian Pillman defeated The Cuban Assassin & Beef Wellington . . . Mr. Hito beat Gus Jamison by submission . . . Jeff Wheeler defeated Michel Hammer.

—Ryan Beagle

CIVIC AUDITORIUM (San Francisco): Nikita Koloff and Ric Flair were both counted out of the ring . . . The Road Warriors & Brad Armstrong defeated Rick Rude, Manny Fernandez, & Paul Jones . . . Ole Anderson defeated Tully Blanchard by disqualification . . . Ronnie Garvin & Jimmy Garvin defeated The Midnight Express by disqualification . . . Bob Armstrong and Ivan Koloff wrestled to a 20-minute time-limit draw . . . Baron Von Raschke defeated Konga the Barbarian by countout.

—Tony Jones

CIVIC COLISEUM (Knoxville, TN): Jimmy Golden & Robert Fuller defeated The Dirty White Boy & Jerry Stubbs in a \$50,000 challenge match . . . Scott Casey won by disqualification over Tom Pritchard . . . Mr. Wrestling II beat The Shogun . . . Adrian Street won by disqualification over Dutch Mantel . . . Doug Furnis won by disqualification over The Spoiler when Ron Wright interfered . . . The Nightmares pinned Yuri & Vladimir Goryenko . . . Wendell Cooley and Buddy Landell battled to a double-disqualification.

—Chris Janeway

DEERFIELD HIGH SCHOOL (Deerfield, IL): Randy Savage defeated Blackjack Mulligan . . . Greg Valentine & Dino Bravo beat The Islanders . . . Brutus Beefcake demolished Adrian Adonis . . . The British Bulldogs beat Demolition . . . Jake Roberts defeated Brett Hart . . . Jim Neidhart beat Jim Brunzell by disqualification . . . King Kong Bundy defeated The Red Demon . . . Hacksaw Duggan beat Nikolai Volkoff by disqualification when The Iron Sheik interfered.

—Joe Garcia

FREEMAN COLISEUM (San Antonio, TX): Steve Williams beat One Man Gang by disqualification . . . Rick Steiner & Sting defeated Chris Adams & Terry Taylor by disqualification . . . The Freebirds defeated Bill Irwin, The Angel of Death, & Bad Leroy Brown . . . Eddie Gilbert & Iceman Parsons beat Sam Houston & Savannah Jack . . . Sam Houston defeated The Super Ninja . . . Gary Young won by disqualification over Chavo Guerrero . . . Baby Doll defeated Sunshine by countout . . . Mike George defeated Jeff Raitz.

—Russell Tibboel

GAINESVILLE HIGH SCHOOL (Gainesville, FL): Bill Mulkey pinned Colt Steel . . . Mitch Snow pinned Randy Mulkey . . . Bill Dundee pinned Eddie Roberts . . . Ron Simmons pinned Denny Brown . . . Brady Boone pinned Teijho Khan . . . The Southern Boys & Scott Hall defeated Kevin Sullivan, Shaska Whatley, & The Tahitian Prince . . . Mike Rotundo defeated Ed "The Bull" Gantner.

—Scott Klein

GREENSBORO COLISEUM (Greensboro, NC): Nelson Royal pinned Johnny Ace . . . Lazor-Tron pinned Gary Royal . . . Brad Armstrong defeated Konga the Barbarian . . . The New Breed and The Rock 'n' Roll Express battled to a 20-minute draw . . . Bob Armstrong, Barry Windham, & Ron Garvin defeated The Midnight Express & Big Bubba in a bungalow match . . . Lex Luger defeated Nikita Koloff by disqualification . . . Dusty Rhodes defeated Ivan Koloff in a Texas bullrope match . . . Ric Flair beat Jimmy Garvin by disqualification.

—Troy Penny

REPORT

JACKSON FAIRGROUNDS COLISEUM (Jackson, MS): King Kobra beat Ken Massey ... Scott Casey pinned Grappler II ... Brian Adias defeated Bobby Fulton ... Eli the Eliminator beat Jack Victory ... The Fantastics defeated Brian Adias & Al Madril.

—Phil Summerlin

JACKSONVILLE COLISEUM (Jacksonville, FL): Teijho Khan and Brady Boone battled to a 15-minute time-limit draw ... Scott Hall & Brady Boone defeated Ed Gantner & Shaska Whatley ... Jimmy Valiant won by disqualification over Teijho Khan when Kevin Sullivan interfered ... The Southern Boys & Wahoo McDaniel beat The M.O.D. Squad & Bill Dundee ... Mike Rotundo defeated Rick Rude ... Ole Anderson won by disqualification over Tully Blanchard ... Dusty Rhodes & Nikita Koloff beat Lex Luger & Arn Anderson ... Ric Flair pinned Barry Windham.

—Ron Drain

MARKET SQUARE ARENA (Indianapolis): Jimmy Jack Funk pinned Siva Afi ... Jerry Allen beat Frenchy Martin ... Ron Bass pinned Lanny Poffo ... The Can-Am Connection defeated The Shadows ... Adrian Adonis and Brutus Beefcake wrestled to a draw ... Jake "The Snake" Roberts and The Honky Tonk Man battled to a double-countout ... Tito Santana pinned Danny Davis ... Rick Steamboat defeated Randy Savage in a steel cage match by climbing over the top.

—Ryan Shipp

MUSKOGEE CIVIC CENTER (Muskogee, OK): Eddie Gilbert defeated Sam Houston ... Buddy Jack Roberts beat Wild Bill Irwin ... Big Bubba Rogers beat One Man Gang to win the UWF heavyweight title ... Steve Cox beat The Super Ninja ... Chavo Guerrero beat Mike Boyette ... Sting & Rick Steiner beat Jeff Reitz & Mike Reed ... Iceman Parsons beat Jeff Raitz ... Chris Adams beat Terry Taylor by countout ... Angel Mohammed beat Mike Reed ... Steve Williams defeated Wild Bill Irwin.

—Sherry Speer

PAUL SAUVE ARENA (Montreal): Chuck Sims & Richard Charland defeated Dan Kroffat & Armand Rougeau for the Canadian tag team championship ... Abdullah the Butcher pinned Steve Strong ... Kendo Nagasaki demolished Yvon Laverdure ... Chuck Sims won by disqualification over Gino Brito Jr. ... Denis Goulet and Gilles Poisson wrestled to a double-disqualification ... Len Shelley & Sheik El Arab beat Leo Burke & Ludger Proulx ... Sunny War Cloud beat Rocky Dellaserra.

—James Zafiris

THE SCOPE (Norfolk, VA): Ricky Lee Jones defeated Eddie Roberts ... Lazor-Tron defeated Shaska Whatley ... Jimmy Garvin defeated Bobby Eaton ... Arn Anderson pinned Todd Champion ... Tim Horner defeated Tully Blanchard by disqualification ... Manny Fernandez defeated Robert Gibson in a Mexican death match ... Rick Morton defeated Rick Rude in a bungalow match and Morton got five minutes in the ring with

Paul Jones ... Wahoo McDaniel defeated Vladimir Petrov by disqualification ... Ric Flair and Barry Windham went to a time-limit draw ... Dusty Rhodes defeated Big Bubba Rogers in a Texas bullrope match.

—Keith Whitney

SPORTSARENA (Nashville, TN): Jeff Jarrett beat Pat Tanaka by disqualification in a lumberjack match ... Big Bubba & Goliath defeated B.T. Express & Rocky Johnson ... Allen West & Vic Steamboat beat Mr. Shima & Mr. Helo by disqualification ... The Hunter pinned J.T. Southern ... Jack Hart and Bucky Steigler wrestled to a draw ... Paul Diamond defeated Boy Tony.

—Mark Taylor

TINGLEY COLISEUM (Albuquerque, NM): Dutch Mantel defeated Konga the Barbarian ... Bobby Jaggers beat Thunderfoot II ... Ronnie & Jimmy Garvin beat The Midnight Express ... Wahoo McDaniel won by disqualification over Lex Luger ... Road Warrior Animal & Nikita Koloff defeated Tully Blanchard & Arn Anderson ... Manny Fernandez & Rick Rude beat The Rock 'n' Roll Express ... Ric Flair pinned Barry Windham ... Dusty Rhodes beat Big Bubba Rogers in a cage match.

—Edwin Aragon

WAR MEMORIAL AUDITORIUM (Buffalo, NY): Jim Powers defeated Frenchy Martin ... Paul Roma pinned Steve Lombardi ... Demolition destroyed The Islanders ... Butch Reed pinned Lanny Poffo ... The Rougeau Brothers beat Greg Valentine & Dino Bravo ... Adrian Adonis pinned Brutus Beefcake ... Danny Davis won by countout over Tito Santana ... Hulk Hogan pinned Kamala.

—Danny Ball

UIC PAVILLION (Chicago): Ric Flair defeated Dusty Rhodes by disqualification ... The Road Warriors & Nikita Koloff destroyed Arn Anderson, Lex Luger, & Tully Blanchard ... Rick Rude & Manny Fernandez defeated The Rock 'n' Roll Express ... Ole Anderson beat J.J. Dillon in a bungalow match ... Baron Von Raschke beat Ivan Koloff by disqualification ... Brad Armstrong beat Tim Horner.

—Dana Kaluzny

RECAP: Tag team partners Terry Taylor and Chris Adams wrestled each other in Muskogee, Oklahoma, for the rights to face UWF champion Big Bubba Rogers. Adams won by countout, but wouldn't accept the victory. A rematch has been scheduled ... The Randy Savage-Rick Steamboat war has been heating up around the country. Steamboat has retained his Intercontinental title, although the matches have been even ... Brett Hart of The Hart Foundation squared off against Davey Boy Smith of The British Bulldogs in a singles match at the Calgary Corral. Hart won this chain match, but a week earlier, Smith defeated Hart ... Reports from all areas, especially the UWF, Florida, and Continental, picked up this month. Let's keep it going! When you go to a match, send us the results! □

***** WRESTLING *****

ENQUIRER

AWA WORLD TITLE HELD UP

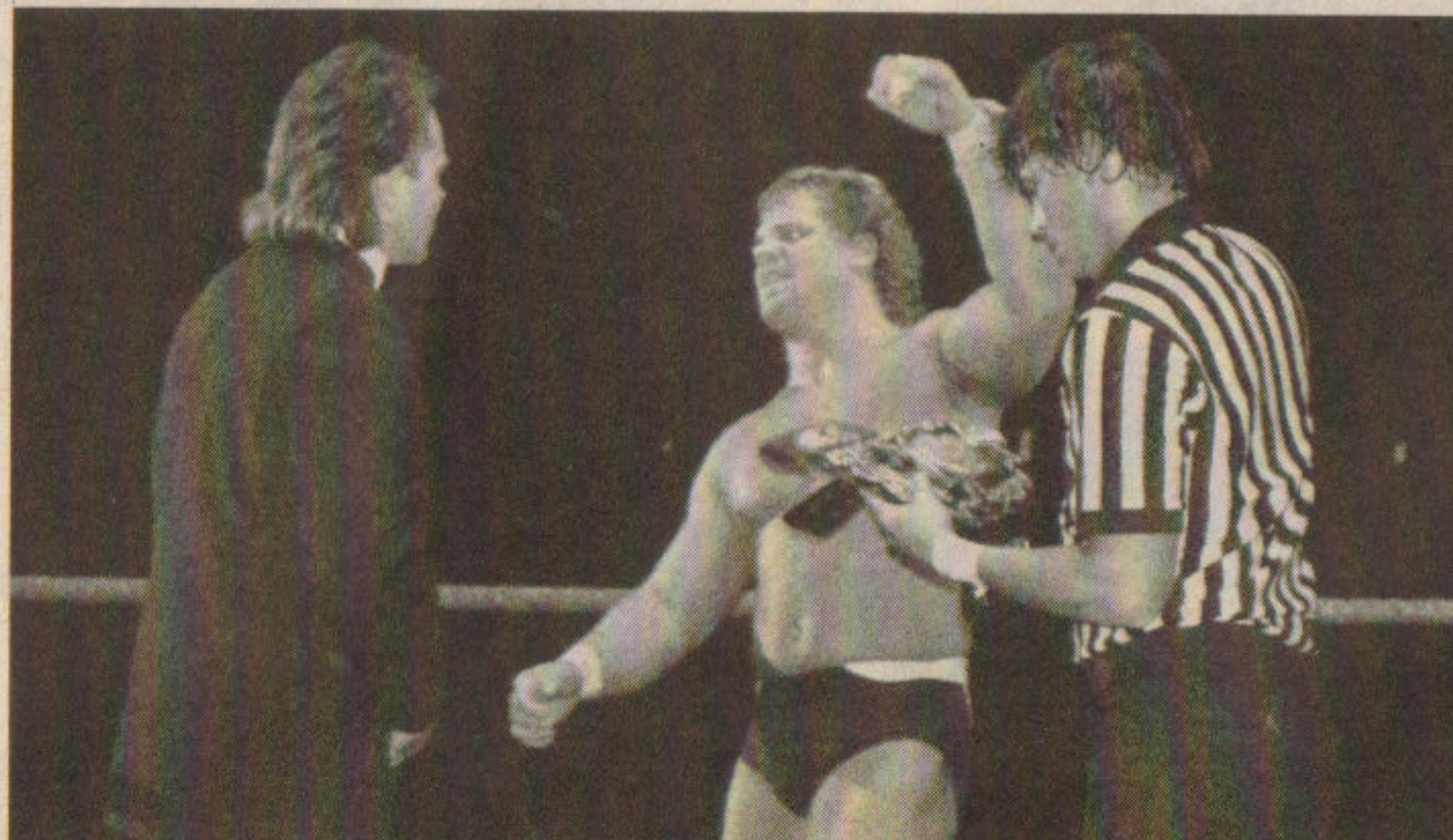
Officials To Rule On Hennig's Controversial Win Over Bockwinkel

By BILL APTER

SAN FRANCISCO—The AWA World heavyweight belt has been ordered held up by federation officials following challenger Curt Hennig's apparently illegal pin of champion Nick Bockwinkel.

"It appears as if there is some question concerning the legality of Mr. Hennig's pin of Mr. Bockwinkel," said AWA President Stanley Blackburn. "The integrity of the World championship is of the utmost importance, and we would like to be 100 percent sure in this matter."

The questionable pin occurred with 26 minutes gone in the match as Larry Zbyszko allegedly handed Hennig a foreign object. Hennig then hit Bockwinkel in the head and covered him for the pin.



Larry Zbyszko joins Curt Hennig in the ring as referee Gary DeRusha awards Hennig the AWA World title belt. However, the title is being held up because Zbyszko may have handed Hennig a foreign object.

But Blackburn and Ray Stevens came into the ring and told referee Gary DeRusha what had happened. Stevens then grabbed Zbyszko by the jacket and shook out a roll of quarters.

"The problem we have is that it's hard to say if Hennig used the roll of quarters," said Blackburn. "Just because Zbyszko had it on his person doesn't mean that it was used. We intend to study the tapes very carefully, however, and we should be able to reach a strong conclusion."

Hennig was very outspoken on the matter. "Once again, the AWA is protecting Nick Bockwinkel," he said. "I don't know why they're so in love with that old man, but it doesn't matter to me. One way or another, I'm gonna get that belt."

Gilbert Tries To Woo Taylor

By CRAIG PETERS

TULSA, OK—In a shocking move, Eddie Gilbert has offered his managerial services to former rival Terry Taylor.

"I like your new style," Gilbert told Taylor recently. "A man like you could be a good addition to Hot Stuff Inc., and I would definitely consider handling you."

Taylor would have nothing of it. "Bug off," he responded, but Gilbert

said that the offer is still on the table.

This latest in a series of unusual incidents concerning Taylor followed a match against tag team partner Chris Adams. Taylor was constantly frustrated by Adams and finally resorted to kicking and punching. Finally, referee Carl Fergie was knocked out in a collision and Adams was sent to the arena floor. Taylor jumped to the floor and piledriven Adams, then returned to the ring just as Fergie was waking up. Fer-

gie counted out Adams and awarded Taylor the match.

In an interview later on, Taylor told commentator Magnum T.A. that he's tired of being a nice guy. "It's gotten me nowhere," he said.

Gilbert agreed. "Being Mr. Nice Guy will never get anybody anywhere in this sport," he told reporters. "I've given Taylor the chance to turn his career around. He'd be a fool to turn me down."

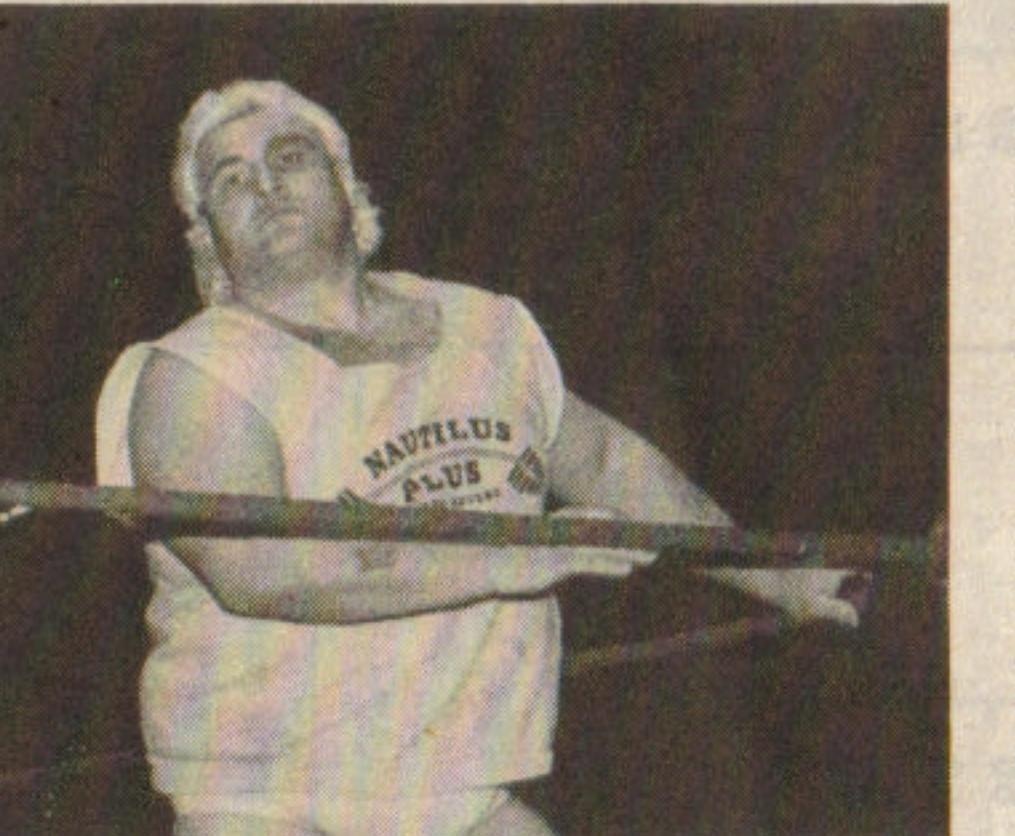
Adonis Reported To Be Fired By WWF

By STU SAKS

GREENWICH, CT—According to high-level sources, Adrian Adonis has been fired by the World Wrestling Federation.

Two sources have told *Wrestling Enquirer* that the WWF has implemented a new dress code, requiring its athletes to dress "in a professional manner" outside of the ring. Adonis usually wears jeans and T-shirts when traveling from match to match.

"I saw him in an airport one day and he was dressed like a slob," said Timothy Johnson, a fan from New York City. "I couldn't believe that he



Adrian Adonis has reportedly been fired by the WWF for violating an out-of-the-ring dress code.

was a professional athlete. I know that his sexual preferences are in doubt, but that doesn't mean he has to dress like he does."

One source told us that the WWF is concerned about improving the image of its wrestlers. "They'd like people to think of the WWF as a class act," he said. "The WWF is always trying to do things professionally and this was just another step. It's really not unusual. Professional football and baseball teams have similar policies."

WWF officials refused to comment on the matter. Adonis could not be reached for comment.

Masked Man Invades Mid-Southern Area

By JEFF RYAN

MEMPHIS, TN—A mysterious masked man ran into the ring during a tag team match here, threw fire in manager Paul Dangerly's face, and shaved Downtown Bruno's head. The identity of this man is still unknown, although some say that he is Jerry Lawler.

"Any fool could see that it was Lawler," said Dangerly, who wore bandages to conceal severe facial burns. "But I've got plenty of money

and I can take care of these cosmetic problems. Lawler still hasn't gotten revenge and he oughta know that until he wins the tag belts back and gets rid of me, Austin Idol, and Tommy Rich, he's still a loser."

The incident occurred during a match pitting Bill Dundee and Rocky Johnson against Idol and Rich. While Idol and Rich double-teamed Dundee, Dangerly signaled to the dressing room for Downtown Bruno. Bruno came out

with hair shaving equipment and was ready to cut Dundee's hair when the masked man ran into the ring. He threw fire at Dangerly, then teamed with Dundee to brutalize Bruno. Johnson grabbed Bruno and the masked man shaved his head.

Lawler denies that he had anything to do with the incident. "That wasn't me," he said, "but whoever it was, I'd like to shake his hand. Dangerly and Bruno had it coming to them."

AROUND THE GLOBE

TOKYO, JAPAN

The Japanese Amateur Wrestling Association has asked professional wrestler Yoshiaki Yatsu to coach its amateur team in the 1988 Olympics.

Yatsu, Japan's top heavyweight in 1980, missed the 1984 Olympics when Japan decided to boycott the games. Yatsu wanted to wrestle in the '88 games, but the Japanese Olympic committee ruled him ineligible because he had wrestled professionally. Yatsu had argued that

pro and amateur wrestling were different sports and he should be allowed to compete in the Olympics.

GRAZ, AUSTRIA

A frustrated Otto Wanz returned to his home town following unsuccessful attempts to get a shot at the AWA World title. Wanz, who held the AWA title for three weeks in 1982 when he defeated Nick Bockwinkel, came to the United States with the intent of winning back the belt. "He's very disappointed," said a spokesman for Wanz. "He thinks he doesn't get the proper respect in the U.S."

YOKOHAMA, JAPAN

Stan Hansen defeated Hiroshi Wajima in the finals of the tournament for the Pacific Wrestling Federation championship here. One week earlier,

Hansen had been frustrated in his attempt to win the belt when he battled Dory Funk to a double-countout. There is no indication as to how long Hansen will campaign in Japan, since he has wrestled frequently in Puerto Rico.